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THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL
A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.
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The Daily Commercial.

CHRISTMAS AGAIN.

"Jones, notify Hobson that his note due Christmas day, must be put †, and no renewal," and, peering over my desk, I see my employer turning the leaves of his "tickler," with not a trace in his countenance of that gentler feeling, that "peace on earth, and good will to men," which comes at Christmas times, into the face of all true, pure hearted men, and women.

Christmas! again; I think with a start, thank God for Christmas! For the coming of the little cheery season, at the closing of the year's vexations, and disappointments, which brings a burst of gladness, a feeling of peace, and impulses to make others happy. For those few delicious days of pleasant anxieties, perplexities, and little self-denials to accomplish happiness for others. For the swift flying week in which to sown the seed of that joyous harvest, of tender thanks, and loving looks, reaped on Christmas morn, by the cheerful giver, to whom the anticipations of the happiness prepared for others was of more worth than dollars.

Thank God for Christmas! I mentally exclaim as I write the note to Hobson, and lay down my pen gaze out of the window, into the realms of Christmases gone; into the company of lads and lasses; fair women and brave men; gone too.

O! for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still,

comes murmuring to my lips and I, whose children are but fancies, whose wife is but a tender dream of a "might-have-been," wonder if many whose vanished ones know no more earthly Christmas morn to, feel that regret for hours when a dollar outweighed the happiness of a Christmas gift, that comes even to me because they who never were, can take no Christmas present from my hands with a happy smile, and loving word. To such does the disappointed face of a little child, whose stocking hung with hapoy faith at Christmas eve, contained no gift at morn, look out each recurring Christmas week from the misty air. Comes then to such the memory of a happy wifely face quieting down some Christmas morn, into a look of weary monotony that over the carefully prepared Christmas morning welcomed the sunrise of the ever so trifling a gift, handed with a word and a look of affection, the tale of "such hard times." The bank balance may grow large of time and their paper "good," but the memory of the few dollars saved, at the cost of childhoods Christmas faith, and woman's Christmas trust, has a pang, when Christmas comes again; and only to-day, to-morrow, might have been made happier, o' Christmas morn, is left.

I have been "cent-per-cent's" faithful servant for years, and know that to him Christmas brings no loosened purse strings, nor a single thought that because poor struggling Hobson's note fell due on Christmas day, it were good to remember once again, that our Christmas eve passing out of the office door, I stopped aghast to hear him murmuring

O! for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still,

and that too passed, down the street, wondering how he who never read a poet's line had learned those sad touching words; and if there had come gliding into him that Christmas eve, a sad weary faced woman, and a wistful eyed child, whose dream of Santa Claus never came true, and awake a regret for "the tender grace of a day that was dead and could never come back to him."

So recalling past Christmases, wondering how Hobson would pay his note, and if he did where he would find the little pittance with which to enable Christmas gifts to gladden childhood's faith, and woman's love, bright within his humble home, I kept gazing out of the window until sad with memories, burdened with fancies, I closed my desk and slipped out into the street, whispering Christmas again! Christmas again! and, weaving sweet Christmas fancies, found myself, habit-led, entering KAY & CO.'s well furnished book store, where for forty Christmas holidays I had passed pleasant hours, with books, with friends, and the Christmas fancies of my own thoughts.

A Christmas blessing be on the time-honored firm who, for forty years, have catered so elegantly and so bountifully for the Christmas pleasures of those who come to buy with fairy purses; or those who scantier in this world's goods have with kindly words been made welcome to linger through happy hours overall the wealth of rare books so profusely spread, while unquestioned they seek the modest purchase their purse permits.

A Christmas blessing, I murmur as I open the door—and here's Christmas, I chorus, as I close sight; the well known odor of morocco and fresh printed books, salutes me; and patches of crimson and gold, blue and silver, green and red, glitter and glimmer, in rows and piles of russet and drab, purple and black bound volumes. Here's Christmas! I repeat, dropping my self into an elegant sofa lolio volume, I find "The Gothe Gallery," and over its fifty superb steel illustrations of characters from Gothe's works drink my first draught from KAY & CO.'s Christmas feast, for 1869. That's for Maude, I murmur to myself; quiet, stately, brown-eyed Maude. And this "Songs of Life," wherein the pencil of Eytinge, and Darley, and Hennessy, and Billings, and a dozen others, quick of fancy and deft of hand, have put the songs of old and new singers in rare settings; this is for one whose cheek flushes and pales when Bryant or Mardock reads, and whose blue eye loves to linger on the poet's line. And this "Lady Geraldine," Mrs. Browning's most exquisite poem; whose very spirit Hennessy has caught and preserved in thirty full page illustrations; "Lady Geraldine,' who "Would break out on a sudden in a gush of woodland melody, or shall sing with bright Kate, who knows where the earliest blue bird is building, where the latest wild flower is found, and whose voice has a low, soft tremble, like the wood-dove's brooding coo.

Ah! me, what changes in the forty years, since she, to whose golden haired, blue eyed daughter I shall send this beautifully illustrated "Whittier's *Ballads of New England*," took timidly from my hand with a Christmas greeting, a copy of Byron, the choice selection of the day. Now, shaded Tennyson, musical Longfellow, quiet Lowell, rare Browning, grand Bryant, tender Stoddart, perplex the choice, as well from the varying beauty of the editions as the rare gift. Ah, yes, I turn carelessly on KAY'S counters, the exquisite editions of those and a half score of other famous modern poets, it brings a thrill of pleasure to know that any or all can go to the rosy cheeked wife without fears that her eye may fall upon some lines whose sense shall wake a tremor of shame. The shy violet springs, and the red maple leaf falls, whereon rests all that knows decay of one who never knew the verse of these pure poets; would she had, and that I might this coming Christmas morn, lay in her lap this *"Building of the Ship,"* Longfellow's noble poem, on whose illustrations artist hands have worked until it is the most elegant of Christmas gifts.

Ah! crowd in thick as ye may, O dream beings of my fancy! here are rare volumes for you all. Tender poets, quaint moralists, pleasant historians, pure divines, genial humorists, rare novelists, famous writers in all seeing emblazoned on daintiest of paper, illustrated with deftest fancy, bound in exquisite style. Enough, and to spare, for all. And you whose loved ones are not dreams, as mine, but who can reward you with pleasant words as these delightful books are placed in their warm, living hands, thank God for Christmas, and the opportunity to make your firesides happy with such choice books as KAY & CO. this year display. Be glad that tiny Meg can find, 'an you will beside her Christmas stocking, this delightful "Birds and Blossoms," and shy Ruth, this charming "Poems for a Child." That laughing Kate will see beside her breakfast plate this "Doty Dimple's *Fly-a-way*" and this "Trotty Book;" both so overflowing with the very humor of childhood's freaks. That round-eyed Rose will find close by her stocking on the mantle corner, this beautifully illustrated "Holmes Lee's New Fairy Tales." That frank-spoken Jack can find beside his stocking this enchanting "Robin Hood" and restless, stirring Tom these Du Chaliln's "Lost in a Jungle," "Wild Life Under the Equator," "Stories of the Gorilla Country."

Make the children glad while you may; for their Christmases fly fast, and the cares of years come apace; and all the little tender-faced merry girls, and frank-faced honest-hearted boys we'll soon be men and women; and there will be no little children for you to linger in KAY & CO.'s well filled store, seeking beautiful books for their Christmas stockings. No little children save those who in the depths of your memories remain always as little children in all that other world whence Christmas came; and to whom the happy Christmas gift you send is a loving faith in the good All Father, and Christ His Son.—for

Such are the lilies of the valley, blooming
In freshened verdure beside the eternal river,
Whose perfume, wafted downward, soothes,
And ever cheers the cheerful giver.

Let your homes know that it is Christmas again. Let no little shoeless thing with such loving faith in the chimney corner, on Christmas eve, be empty in the misty grey of the breaking Christmas morn. Let the faces around the Christmas breakfast glow bright in the love reflected from the Christmas gifts beside each plate. Thank God for Christmas when you have those whose love is yours, and for whom can lay a gift, than these beautiful books from KAY & CO.'s make a happy Christmas morn. Let it not be that like my long served master, Cent-per-cent, you sit in the gathering twilight, and murmuring

"O! for the touch of a vanished hand,"

think of a little child, whose hope of Santa Claus's visit never came true, and a faithful wife, whose household's monotonous round was never broken by the lasting pleasure of a Christmas gift.

Of all gifts, books are the choicest. They bring pleasure when received, and remain "a joy forever." Christmas after Christmas! In a lonely old bookkeeper, dream over KAY & CO.'s counters fancies of rosy girls, brave boys, blushing maidens, and a tender, dutiful wife, to whom I in fancy send such volumes as are suited best to each. If one heart shall by reason of my rambling talk of maidens, who are not, and wives who never were, be made happier by receiving of these elegant volumes of KAY's providing, I say once again, thank God for Christmas!

Did You See the Large and Splendid Stock of holiday goods at James E. Burns & Co.'s drug store, corner of Penn and Sixth streets.

Christmas Pianos.

The largest and finest selection of instruments ever brought to this city are now to be seen at the piano warerooms of Charlotte Blume, over Nos. 43 and 45 Fifth avenue. They were selected especially for the holidays from the factories of Wm. Knabe & Co., now the largest in the United States. Knabe's instruments have been before the public for thirty-two years, and upon their excellence alone attained an unpurchased preeminence which pronounces them unrivaled for their *tone, touch, workmanship and durability.* They have been awarded sixty-five gold and silver medals at different fairs over other competitors. All of their pianos have their new improved overstring scale and upper three octaves agraffe. This establishment is also sole agent for Haines Bros. pianos, acknowledged by all "the best pianos at the price made," Prince Co.,s world renowned organs and melodeons, and pianos, and organs from six other makers. Persons wishing anything in the kind should by all means call at this place, to the extensive warerooms of Charlotte Blume, Nos. 43 and 45 Fifth avenue.

Shellenberger's Pills
Cures the most obstinate cases of fever and ague. Try them. Sold at Jos. Fleming's 81 Market street, corner of the Diamond.

R. E. Breed & Co.
Have the latest designs of silver plated vare Call and examine their variety, at 100 Wood street.

At 100 Wood Street,
Can be found the latest designs, plain, elaborate and elegant patterns, of silver plated ware. R. E. Breed & Co.

Sixty-five
Gold and silver medals have been awarded Knabe's pianos.

Save Money
By advertising judiciously through Messrs. Griffin & Hoffman, advertising agents, No. 5 St. Paul street, Baltimore. Send for estimates and information. They furnish copies of all papers for which they contract, especially during the period of said contracts, without extra charge. Pittsburgh references: Jno. D. Scully, Cashier First National Bank, and T. H. Young & Co.

Neither Falling Teeth,
Nor the peeping wrinkles of time, so forcibly tell of advancing years, as your grey hair. Ayer's Vigor restores its color and makes your appearance more agreeable to others, as well as to yourself. With its restoration half the infirmities of age are far less noticeable. TTHS

Don't Buy a Piano
Until you have examined the unrivalled Knabe, for sale *only* at Blume's, 43 and 45 Fifth avenue.

Kenwood's Boarding School for Boys New Brighton, Penna.
A new session will begin Tuesday, January 4th, 1870. TTHS

The "Knabe"
Is decidedly the best piano made. To see and hear them is the best way to judge of their superiority. At Blume's, 43 and 45 Fifth avenue, first class piano made. For sale *only* at Blume's, 43 and 45 Fifth avenue.

To Whom it May Concern.
Have you ever beholded your grey hair with the vivid color worse appearance, when offered as substitutes. If so, they disgust you of course. Call for Buckingham's Dye, known as LYON'S VITALIA OR SALVATION FOR THE HAIR. It is the most actual Restorative as water, in all respects agreeable, and effects the desired object thoroughly and satisfactorily. TTHSS

China Ware.
A large assortment, embracing every variety of recent patterns, at R. E. Breed & Co.'s, 100 Wood street.

Milhan's Golden Cod Liver Oil.
With hypo-phosphate of lime, a great improvement; made with the best oil known, it is tasteless, and will agree with the most delicate digestibility. Sold by respectable druggists. J. Milhan's Sons, 183 Broadway, New York. tf

The Pittsburgh Female College
Has seven of William Knabe & Co.'s celebrated pianos.

You Can Regulate the Color.
Every tinted shade from light brown to deepest black is imparted by Prison's Vitalia or Salvation for the Hair. The simple application determines the tinge. It would be like comparing shifting water to the drainings from a marsh, to compare it with the ordinary hair dyes. TTHS

Silver Plated Ware.
The latest designs, plain, elaborate and elegant patterns, at R. E. Breed & Co.'s, 100 Wood street.

Knabe's Pianos
Are warranted eight years.

Anline Dyes.
We have just received a large invoice of these dyes, comprising all the new shades, which we offer at reasonable prices. Selling, blue and green and are prepared to sell them very low.
McCLARAN & McKENNAN,
Druggists, 85 Market street, corner Diamond near Fifth avenue.

W. D. Duffey,
Merchant Tailor, No. 24 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh. tf

Seven Stops
In "Prince & Co's" new style automatic organs. Price only $130, cash. For sale only by Charlotte Blume, 43 Fifth avenue.

China Ware.
The newest patterns; elegant tea sets; an unsurpassed assortment, at Charlotte Blume's music store, 43 and 45 Fifth avenue.

Haines Brothers Pianos
Are for sale *only* at Charlotte Blume's music store, 43 and 45 Fifth avenue.

PAPAL INFALLIBILITY.

The Protest of a Distinguished Bishop of the Church.

The distinguished French prelate, Monsieur Dupanloup, Bishop of Orleans, preparatory to setting out for the Ecumenical Council, issued a letter to his clergy containing "Observations on the Controversy regarding the proposed Definition of the Pope's Infallibility at the Approaching Council," wherein this important ecclesiastic speaks in singularly plain language upon this question. The letter is very long and would fill a whole page of the COMMERCIAL. Hence we have room for but a brief synopsis.

Bishop Dupanloup states he would have kept silence, but the discussion of Papal Infallibility endeavored to overrule public opinion in advance in its favor. This induces him to protest, and he proceeds to show that the infallibility of the Pope has never been acknowledged by the Church; never in its early history was the prerogative of deciding matters of faith or morals surrendered by the other bishops to the Bishop of Rome. At the Council of Trent the claim was set up, but had to be abandoned, because of the opposition it aroused—and from that day to this it has not been revived. The Bishop of Orleans declares that would be a new dogma; for never in eighteen centuries have the faithful been required to believe this, on pain of ceasing to be Catholics." The opposition to the Bishop of Orleans controverts has been put into words by Archbishop Manning: "The Pope, when he speaks alone, outside the episcopal body, assembled or dispersed, is infallible; and he may define dogmas alone, without any concurrence, expressed or tacit, of the bishops, antecedent or subsequent." "If this be so," replies Bishop Dupanloup, "then Bossuet, Fenelon and Bellarmine did not know their catechism."

But not only is this new dogma untenable, says the Bishop; it is also inexpedient:

"Seventy-five millions of the Eastern Church are separated for mine centuries by the doctrine of Papal supremacy. Shall we add millions more? Shall to union be added treason? You would say to the Greeks—'There is no alternative between my word and make an abyss.' This would be to make a laughing stock of the authority that, with its anathemas, beckons and drives away."

"Bishops are small fry in Rome," says a Roman prelate; but a bishop who holds as forcible a pen as Bishop Dupanloup, and has the "courage of his opinions," is not likely to be smothered, even in the new Council.

Jeffersonian Doctrine.

A letter from Thomas Jefferson, dated July 21st, 1809, was published in *Niles's Register* in 1833, from which the following is an extract. It is as good now as it was sixty years ago:

"You know that every syllable uttered in my name becomes a text for the Federalists to torment the public mind on, by their perpetual comments; and I have lately indicated the encouragement of manufactures. Will it be said of one who has spoken, at least in all articles of which we raise the raw material, On this the Federal papers have outstripped all sounded the alarm of 'Chinese policy,' destruction of commerce, &c., &c. That is to say, the iron which we make must not be wrought here into ploughs, axes and hoes, but be exported to the ship owner may have the profit of carrying it to Europe and bringing it back in a manufactured form, as if after manufacturing our own raw material for our own use, there would not be a surplus produce sufficient to employ a due proportion of navigation in carrying to market. And so it is said of the three articles of which we have not the raw material, yet this leaves but a very few unenumerated items. I believe New England. Their doctrine goes to the encouragement of agriculture and manufactures to commerce to the calling of seamen, people from the ocean, their coming to a seaboore to turn merchants, and to convert ship, first Americanism, contrary to a city of Amsterdam.

Whether the free trade lecturers sent out by the New York League have succeeded by this "absurd *bue and cry*" in their attempt to Britainize the West in 1869 as it "Federalized" New England in 1809 remains to be seen. We have our doubts about it. The people of the West can see as far into a millstone as any one, and will surely understand that although free trade may be very nice for the "Amsterdemers" it is not so good for this "great agricultural country."

If there are any old fashioned Jefferson Democrats left, we commend to them the letter of the sage of Monticello.

The speech of Senator Carpenter, on the Cuban question, is spoken of by some as very respectable, but not up to the general expectation. By others, however, it is very highly praised, especially in contrast with the course of Mr. Sumner. The Philadelphia *Post* speaks of the King Wisconsin Senator in the following rather exaggerated strain: "Freedom has found her champion. The young, able, lofty-minded Robert Emmet of the Senate for Cuba with signal force. He will prove to be the Henry Clay of his day. His utterances, like those of the great Kentuckian, will be read at the head of armies fighting against Spain and for liberty."

The Tennessee Constitutional Convention, for which delegates were chosen on Saturday *last*, will meet on the second Monday of January. Andrew Johnson declined being a candidate for delegate.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

Remanding of Georgia to Her Former Status.

The Bill Passed in the Senate—The Case of Virginia—Ports of Entry—California Whisky Case—Postage Matters—San Domingo and the Bay of Samana—Secretary Stanton Nominated to the Supreme Bench and Confirmed, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20, 1869.

The Remanding of Georgia.

The Georgia case is to be disposed of in the House to-morrow afternoon. The Reconstruction Committee had a meeting this morning, and a majority agreed to take it as it came from the Senate. Mr. Farnsworth wants to strike out the section requiring the ratification of the Fifteenth amendment, and Mr. Bingham wants to put the bill over about a month. The Democrats tried a little filibustering, when Butler called it up, but Monday's rules were against them, and in the course of half an hour an agreement was reached that a vote should not be taken to-day, but at three o'clock to-morrow, and that the opposition should have pretty much all the intervening time for speech making. The vote of 170 to 44 on getting at the naming of days about the vote it will receive on its passage. It will not be postponed, and it is not likely to be amended.

The Admission of Virginia.

The case of Virginia is going over into January. The Reconstruction Committee is still fussing over bills for admission of the State, and even if reported to-morrow, there would hardly be time to get it through, before the recess. Mr. Farnsworth intended to call it up in his own bill to-day, but the House stood 103 to 66 against him, showing not so much a feeling of opposition to the measure as a disposition to deal with the refractory Georgians. The bill for admission was reported in the Senate by the Judiciary Committee, but no movement was made to take it up. Whether it comes up in either branch the debate will not be on the merits of the bill, but on what pharseology shall be given to the preamble. Every member of the Reconstruction Committee but one is understood to be for admission.

New Ports of Entry.

The House Committee on Commerce to-day took up the bill for ports of entry at Cincinnati and St. Louis ports of entry, and appointed a sub-committee to submit the matter to the Secretary of the Treasury. The opposition to the bill comes chiefly from the interior ports, as of Michigan, who desires to save business for Port Huron, and Sheldon, of New Orleans, who thinks it will interfere with the business of that city. Mr. Judd was heard on the merits of the matter before the Committee, and afterwards introduced a bill in the House designed to accomplish the same purpose in another way, by amending the act to protect the revenue of July 28, 1866, so as to make section five of that act apply to all goods, wares and merchandise transported from the United States to Cincinnati and St. Louis, and providing that such warehouses shall be established and such officers appointed as shall be necessary to carry out the provisions of the act.

A Big Whisky Case.

The great California whisky case involves a number of prominent dealers in Ohio and Kentucky. Over three hundred thousand gallons and barrels were purchased in those two States and shipped to New York, and thence to Cape Horn to San Francisco, where it arrived, just after the new tax went into force, in condition to justify its seizure. Although the marks show it as highwines and proof spirits in bonds of 40 it was manufactured, it was ready to sell over the counter, and was seized by Collector Rawlins, brother of the late Secretary. Fourteen hundred barrels belonged to Wm. Kennedy, of Cincinnati, Ky., which seemed to be all right. Large lots were the property of Boyle & Miller, of Cincinnati.

The Des Moines Rapids.

The bill appropriating two hundred thousand dollars for the Des Moines Rapids put through the House to-day originated in the War Department, and Secretary Belknap was on the floor urging its passage. Without passing its necessity, as the present appropriation expires the middle of January. The bill will probably go through the Senate before Wednesday's adjournment.

Important to Letter Writers.

The Postoffice Department decides that all domestic letters which are wholly or partially out of rate by the sender must be treated as wholly unpaid and accordingly held for postage or returned to the sender; if paid one full rate they should be forwarded, and the deficiency only charged with the postage due at prepaid rate.

Wholesale Poisoning.

A discharged negro waiter in a large boarding house here put arsenic in the soup, and even with the landlady, and the result was that thirty persons were poisoned, four or five of whom are very sick. The negro was arrested this morning, he was employed as clerk in the drug store who sold him the arsenic.

San Domingo and Bay of Samana.

The following special to the New York papers this morning about San Domingo and the Bay of Samana is largely fictitious and altogether sensational. Our flag is not floating there and the Island has not been transferred to the United States. Gen. Babcock has been down to look at things, and will have a good deal of information to lay before the Senate. He has also had some correspondence with Baez, and on which the President will ask the advice of Congress. But it may be set down as entirely certain that neither the bay nor island has been transferred or annexed, though it is true Dominican authorities have been given the privilege of saying in an official form just what they wish to do and have us do.

The Mission to Hayti.

The President carried out his purpose with respect to ex-Secretary Stanton rather sooner than was expected by the public, and sent the nomination for a seat on the Supreme Bench to the Senate this afternoon. That body went into secret session about half an hour after its reception, and at once confirmed it by a vote of 40 to 11, the negatives being all the Democrats, with Ross and Fowler. Mr. Stanton does not go on the Bench till the first of February.

The Osage Indian Treaty.

Quite a lobby has arrived to work the Osage Indian treaty through the Senate, but the chances for its ratification are very slim. It appropriates $1,000,000 in gold, and prospective contracts for these lands have been sold in Boston, New York and Chicago. One firm New York exchanged a large stock of goods for a share in the land.

The Kentucky Offices.

The President was visited to-day by a number of Kentuckians about offices, when he told them he had much more trouble with their State than any other, and that in no case had he made an appointment but he was immediately set upon by those opposed to the successful candidate, and that he would be certainly made a most wretched selection. He added he was quite at a loss how to move in any Kentucky case.

The Rates on Nickel.

The Ways and Means Committee have agreed to the rates on nickel, fixing 40 cents per pound; alloy 20 cents per pound; matte 20 cents; ores of nickel 10 per cent; manufactured nickel 40 per cent.

Cost of Pension Agencies.

The introduction of Judge Lawrence's bill to abolish a number of pension agents has called out figures showing that the extra fees paid agents by pensioners amount to $169,000 per annum. It is also shown that Government $400,000 per annum to make the payments to pension agencies. The Commissioner of Pensions thinks the machinery of the agencies can be largely simplified and improved.

The President and the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The question at issue between the President and the Senate Judiciary Committee was presented formally to-day in executive session after four hours of debate with closed doors. The Committee claimed that the Senate had a right to see all the papers, as well as the nominations, and that the Circuit Judgeships, and that the President on call was in duty bound to send them to the Capitol. This the President and Attorney General denied, but were willing to show the members of the Committee the recommendations for the persons nominated, but would not admit the claim set up by the committee, and declined to show anything whatever on compulsion. The committee therefore asked the judgment of the Senate on the question. It was argued that the President could not compel the Senate power to call for all these papers, and also that in the early days of our government such right was admitted by the President. Messrs. Conkling, Edmunds and Carpenter were the principal supporters of the committee's views, and Messrs. Sumner, Morton and Wilson were among those who opposed it. The end of the debate was that the Committee withdrew their resolution, finding it could not get more than ten or twelve votes, and then one was offered by Mr. Wilson, which was agreed to by general consent, which merely respectfully requests the President to give the Senate all the information and recommendations he may have in the case of the persons nominated. This is a triumph for the President and Judge Hoar, and quite gratifying to the members of the House generally.

WASHINGTON, December 20.

NOMINATIONS.

The President sent to the Senate to-day the following nominations: Edwin M. Stanton to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, vice Robert C. Grier resigned; George W. Ward to be surgeon in the navy; Wells R. Bell, Surveyor of Customs, Selma, Ala.; Jas Shields, Collector of Internal Revenue, Third District of West Virginia; also, several postmasters, including Wm. H. Needham at Oskaloosa, Iowa. As soon as the nomination of Mr. Stanton was read in executive session, it was confirmed, 48 against 11.

THE GEORGIA BILL.

The following is a copy of the bill to promote the reconstruction of the State of Georgia, as it finally passed the Senate at an early hour on Saturday morning:

Be it enacted, &c., That the Governor of the State of Georgia be and he hereby is authorized to call forth with by proclamation to summon all persons elected to the General Assembly of said State at such years by the proclamation of George G. Meade, the General commanding the Military District including the State of Georgia, dated June 25th, 1868, to appear on some suitable day to be named in said proclamation, at Atlanta in said State, and thereupon said General Assembly shall proceed to perfect the organization in conformity with the constitution and laws of the United States according to the provisions of this act.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That when the members so elected to said Senate and House of Representatives shall be convened as aforesaid, each and every member and each and every person claiming to be elected a member of said Senate or House of Representatives shall, in addition to taking the oath or oaths required by the Constitution of Georgia, also take and subscribe and file in the office of the Secretary of State of the said State of Georgia the following oaths or affirmations, namely: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that the case may be) that I have never held office or exercised the duties of a Senator or Representative in Congress, or been a member of the Legislature of any State of the United States, or held any executive or judicial office in any State, and thereafter engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid and comfort to its enemies, or rendered, except in consequence of the final triumph of the arms of the United States, in suppressing or rebellion against the United States, nor held any office under or given any support to any government of any kind organized or acting in hostility to the United States, or giving aid to enemies of the United States, so help me God, (or on the pains and penalties of perjury, as the case may be)." Or the following oath or affirmation: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be), that I have been relieved by an act of the Congress of the United States from disabilities as provided for in section third of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, so help me God (or on the pains and penalties of perjury, as the case may be)." Which oath or affirmation, when so made, shall be entered on record by the Secretary of State of the State of Georgia, and such oath or affirmation, or a copy of the record thereof duly certified by said Secretary of State, shall be evidence in all courts and places; and every person who shall be elected to and who shall refuse or decline or neglect or be unable to take and subscribe such oaths or affirmations aforesaid shall not be admitted to a seat in said Senate or House of Representatives, but the same shall be deemed a vacancy, and shall be filled hereafter, by appointment of the Governor of said State, in the manner provided by the constitution and laws of said State, as the case may be.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person claiming to be elected to said Senate or House of Representatives as aforesaid shall falsely take either of said oaths or affirmations above provided, he shall be guilty of perjury, and shall suffer the pains and penalties thereof, and may be tried, convicted and punished therefor by the Circuit Court of the United States for the district of Georgia, in which district said crime was committed, and the jurisdiction of said Court shall be sole and exclusive for the purpose aforesaid.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons shall hereafter molest, disturb or prevent any person or persons elected as aforesaid from participation in the proceedings of said senate or House of Representatives, or shall by force, threat or previous condition of servitude, would be illegal and void, and the person so offending shall be guilty of felony, and may be tried, convicted and punished therefor by the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Georgia, in which district said crime was committed, and the jurisdiction of said Court shall be sole and exclusive for the purpose of this act.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That it is hereby declared that the constitutional provision that no person shall be elected to and hold any office or place who shall previously have been engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid and comfort to the enemies thereof, shall be construed to mean that persons who were prevented from holding office by reason of said provision before the passage of the same, shall without dilatory motions proceed to vote on the passage of the same.

After some filibustering, the House refused to adjourn, as moved by Mr. ELDRIDGE.

Mr. COX remarked that many members on his side of the House were anxious for debate the bill, and thought debate was more important than dilatory motions, and suggested that the resolution be so modified as to have the vote on the passage of the bill taken at three o'clock to-morrow.

After considerable discussion the resolution was modified so as to require a vote to be taken at three o'clock to-morrow, and it was adopted.

Mr. ELDRIDGE moved a call of the House to postpone the bill till the third Monday in January.

The SPEAKER stated that the resolution would not preclude a motion to postpone or to amend.

Mr. BRUCE offered an amendment requiring the day fixed for the meeting of the Legislature to be not less than thirty nor more than sixty days from the date of the Governor's proclamation, providing for elections to fill vacancies in the Legislature, and inserting the word "voluntarily" in the oath declaring that the person taking it had not engaged in rebellion, etc.

Mr. BUTLER, of Massachusetts, remarked that the bill had been carefully drawn by the Senate Committee, and had been debated at great length in the Senate, and had met with no opposition. In the mass details of the bill there might be amendments offered which would be improvements, but of any great consequence, but any material amendment would endanger the bill and defeat the lives of many good people in Georgia. One senator and four representatives, white and colored, had been murdered, and fifteen Representatives had been driven from their seats. The bill now is all right. It was proposed by the amendment offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Bingham) that the bill must be allowed to fill the vacancies they created. That was the case in the bill for the relief of Jayne under your opponents and then ask time to select men to take their places. The bill was given up in order to get an honest Legislature might be murdered at Christmas, when no sort of good can on earth be done. Peace and good will to men. If the Georgia rebels had time to get the bill through the Legislature they would change the majority; or at any rate would have a majority in the House of Representatives, so that when the Legislature came together and the amendment now offered by the gentleman from Ohio would not be a quorum by which to pass the Fifteenth Amendment. Then came disabilities as provided for in section third of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, so help me God, or on the pains and penalties of perjury, as the case may be. Which oath or affirmation, when so made, shall be entered on record by the Secretary of State of the State of Georgia, and such oath or affirmation, or a copy of the record thereof duly certified by said Secretary of State, shall be evidence in all courts and places; and every person who shall be elected to and who shall refuse or decline or neglect or be unable to take and subscribe such oaths or affirmations aforesaid shall not be admitted to a seat in said senate or House of Representatives, but the same shall be deemed a vacancy, and shall be filled hereafter, by appointment of the Governor of said State, in the manner provided by the constitution and laws of said State, as the case may be.

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Mr

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1869.

WHEN the ring-masters began their warfare on the COMMERCIAL, they doubtless counted on having always time in disposing of us. We are willing that a candid public should decide how well they have succeeded in realizing their expectations. And here we will say, in the language of the gallant American captain: "We have just begun to fight." At the same time, let it be understood that we have no objects to gratify that should not interest every well-meaning citizen. That our course does challenge the approbation and active support of the community at large, we have abundant evidence. To break down the rings, by exposing their practices, is our sole object, and we have no reason to find fault with the degree of success which is attending our efforts. We intend that not one, but many of the ring masters, if they continue this warfare, shall have an opportunity to purge themselves, or stand self-convicted before the world.

THE elevation of Mr. STANTON to the Bench in the place of Judge GRIER will constitute one of the most conspicuous and acceptable acts of Gen. GRANT's administration. We are glad to know that although his restoration to health has been slow, Mr. STANTON is surely recovering his wonted vigor of body and mind. The act of the President in waiting on Mr. STANTON to tender to him the appointment, was a compliment altogether unusual; such a one, however, as Gen. GRANT, from his thorough knowledge of Mr. STANTON's character, services and abilities, doubtless felt he could well afford to bestow. We are assured from Washington that the conduct of the President in this regard elicits the warmest commendation, and that the announcement of his intention to confer the appointment on Mr. STANTON was received with genuine enthusiasm—a feeling which will be shared wherever Mr. STANTON's great services and ability are appreciated at anything like their true value.

SPENSLOW AND JORKINS.

"I should be happy, myself, to propose two months hence—an hole feeble period, in fact—that I have a partner, Mr. Jorkins."

"And the premium, sir," I returned, "is a thousand pounds."

"And the premium, stamp included, is a thousand pounds," said Mr Spenslow. "As I have mentioned to Miss Trotwood and Mr Dick, I am desirous to take into consideration a few men less so, I believe of Mr. Jorkins's retirement. Mr. Jorkins thinks a thousand pounds for both."

"I suppose, sir," said I, still desiring to spare my aunt, "that it is not the custom here, that an articled clerk were particularly useful, and made himself a perfect master of the business, I could not help thinking, (he looked so like praising myself—I suppose it is the fine old English way,) that a few years of training to allow him any——"

Mr. Spenslow, by a great effort, just lifted his head far enough out of his cravat to shake it, and answered, interrupting me, "No articles."

"No. I will not say what consideration I might give to that present myself, Mr. Copperfield, if I were whollest. Mr. Jorkins is immovable."

"Which things are an allegory" Though indeed every one must have had experience of partnerships, permanent or temporary, in which business was done on the principle of SPENLOW & JORKINS. In justice to JORKINS we must add that, in this sort of firm, he is sometimes terribly victimized. He is not always "the mild man of a heavy temperament," whose business was to be represented as the most obdurate and ruthless of men" described in the work of fiction from which we have quoted. He is sometimes as shrewd and energetic as SPENLOW. But "every mortal has his foolish hours," says the old proverb, and then this poor JORKINS reminds us by his fate of the goat AZAZ-L, in LEVITICUS, otherwise the scape-goat, over whom *were confessed and on whose head were put all the iniquities of the children of Israel and all their transgressions in all their sins*—and who was then sent away alive, by the hand of *a fit man*, into the wilderness. In one respect his case seems more pitiable than that of the goat AZAZEL. In the ceremony alluded to, the confession was made by another; in these modern transactions the deliverance of the real culprits and the condemnation of JORKINS are the result of his own confession. *Tacendo loquitur.*

SPECIE PAYMENTS.

JUDGE COLLIER.

The Secretary of the Treasury and A. T. Stewart.

The assertion having been made in some of the eastern opposition journals, that the Secretary of the Treasury had refused the gold claimed by a New York firm on a bid of 122 because Mr. A. T. Stewart's wishes and interests were in opposition to a decline in gold and a resumption of specie payments, the Philadelphia *Ledger* says it happens to know that the statement is not only wholly without foundation, but the very reverse of truth. The *Ledger* then goes on to say:

Of all the men in large and active business in this country, Mr. Stewart probably is one who most ardently desires to see gold and currency at par, with an attendant steady market for goods from all parts. Mr. Stewart, It is not only fully avowed feeling to h e it has said in the hearing of the writer, but it is the business men of the country most want, and especially does regard to be for, (for some of that of Mr. Stewart, is a reality), and a basis such as will insure the judgment of the strongest and most conservative views of financial and mercantile men, and which can only lead in the direction of a resumption of specie payments. Recently, conditions and resumptions are the watchwords of Mr. A. T. Stewart, as they are of every leading merchant in the country. To believe otherwise of the approaching crisis and pay one hundred cents on the dollar, is to believe in a condition which no safety can by no business is to be reached, de-ends on many considerations. The Secretary of the Treasury is supposed to unduly hurrying the desirable event of resumption, but to be acting with the best interests, and in this view of the matter he has the symphathy and support of a large proportion of the business men of the country. "Make haste slowly" seems to have been the motto of the Secretary hitherto, and though in opposition to the known views of A. T. Stewart, it is generally believed that the financial interest, as well as looking comprehensively into the future, would, in the last analysis, be found to be the safest, come to "hard pan" on the shortest notice.

AN HISTORICAL VOLUME.

One of the most imposing architectural structures in Pittsburgh is the new edifice of the Third Presbyterian Church on Sixth avenue. All citizens must regard it with a certain pride, while strangers who visit the city can hardly fail to draw inferences from its appearance favorable to the taste as well as the liberality of the congregation. Looked at from the lowest point of view, it is one of the ornaments of the city, a grand and noble object adapted to elevate and educate the taste of those who frequently behold its massive and yet graceful proportions. Multitudes still remember the interest excited, in November of last year, by the dedication of the new building to the purposes for which the Legislative committee had by the first opportunity afforded the public of listening to the peals of the admirable organ which is its distinction. Some time ago we received and gave hearty notice to a handsome volume of sermons, every one of which carried with it a necessary implication, with the most damaging silence. The public has—can have but one inference.

But enough of this. There are other considerations involved in this case, to which we invite the attention of every member of the Legislature who goes to Harrisburg pledged to the cause of retrenchment and reform. He should see to it that, so far as he has the power, all connection between the Republican party and the fixing of corruptionists be severed. No matter what the cost, this must be done, or the party will sink into a minority, from which it will not recover for years. In the face of the facts of this libel suit, is there an honest Republican, elected to the Legislature who can conscientiously give his vote to carry out the "QUAY slate?" We all know now what that means. The questions QUAY refused to answer throw a great deal of light on the "slate." These disclosures are of a negative character, it is true—but whose fault is it that they are not positive and "specific?"

We hope to see the members of the Legislature organize for the session on the platform of honesty and integrity, so that they may give vitality to the Republican declarations last fall, that ours is the party of retrenchment and reform. Anything short of this, in the organization of the Legislature, or the distribution of offices by the members, will stamp our political professions as a sham and fraud.

Will the success of the "QUAY slate" vindicate the party and maintain its standard, or meet the expectations of the people? Let the members ask themselves this question; let them consider it in the light of recent events, and answer it by their acts, as their consciences and judgments dictate.

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JUDGE COLLIER.

Hon. F. H. COLLIER, the newly installed Judge of the Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas, tried the principal cases in the Criminal Court last week, and his rulings on points of law, his charges to the jury, and his general management of the public business, have been closely criticised, as is usual in the case of those who are sitting for the first time the discharge of important duties. It affords us great pleasure to state that Judge COLLIER has not only *not* disappointed the high expectations indulged by his friends, but has thus far given the strongest evidence that these anticipations will be more than realized. His decisions on points of law and rules of evidence are made with remarkable promptness, and yet with all due courtesy and kindness towards attorneys. His charges to the jury are models of brevity and perspicuity, and usually occupy but a few minutes. He drives right at the matter in issue, states the facts in the plainest terms, and endeavors to remove all complications from the minds of the jurors. In conducting the business of the Court, he aims to economize time by preventing unnecessary argumentation or quibbling. This is a very important matter, as vast sums may be saved to the taxpayers by economizing "minutes" in the Quarter Sessions. The distinguished Judge MCCLURE, when on the Criminal Bench, used to become very restive under delays, and it was a common remark of his, that every minute wasted by the Court cost the county five dollars. Judge COLLIER seems to appreciate these, and other considerations, and, with the calmness and deliberation of Judge SERRETT, and the promptness of Judge STOWE, dispenses the public business with that "slow haste" which, while guarding the interests of the taxpayers, does no violence to the rights of parties litigant. The members of the bar, who have had occasion to try cases, or hear them tried, before Judge COLLIER, express the most favorable opinion of the manner in which he discharges his duties, and we very much mistake the indications if he does not prove himself one of the ablest criminal judges in the State.

PECULIAR MORALITY.

Mr. BATCHELOR's testimony, published in yesterday's COMMERCIAL, doubtless arrested and fixed the attention of many readers. We may confidently assume that it had the effect of exciting decidedly different sentiments in different persons. Unmixed admiration of the zeal and overflowing gratitude for the voluntary party services reported in the testimony would be awakened in the breasts of uncompromising partisans of the political persussion to which the witness is known to belong. Other and we trust much the larger number were certainly startled by the revelation of character and by the very peculiar notions of morality exhibited in that brief examination. Just look at the facts of the case. Week after week for many months articles had been published in the COMMERCIAL in which the gravest and most confident charges of corruption had been made against certain Political Rings and their members. Capt. BATCHELOR, a prominent politician, goes to the editor of the COMMERCIAL for the purpose of remonstrating with him in regard to "his course." On what grounds did the Captain found his remonstrance? Did he deny the truth of the charges? or suggest the probability of exaggerated reports as reasons for withdrawing, or ceasing to make them? Nothing of this nature. The single reason he gave why these charges should not be made was that "they were injurious to our party." Lest we should seem to be misrepresenting Capt. B. let us give his own words. In the cross-examination he said:

"I went to see Mr. Brigham about the course he was pursuing, and see if some of his articles couldn't be stopped, as they were injuring the party. I wanted to see if it couldn't be fixed up."

In the well known play, Captain MACHEATH says,—"*Any private dispute of mine shall be of no ill consequence to any friends.*" Captain BATCHELOR seems to have thought that nothing but some private grievance could account for the course of the COMMERCIAL,—and that if, in his elegant phraseology, this difficulty could be "fixed up," why all would then go on smoothly. Of course the truth or falsehood of the charges of corruption was a matter of no importance. That this was Captain BATCHELOR's view of the matter seems perfectly clear from his own report of his proceedings. He "thought these things ought to be fixed up." We do not suppose that any comment is necessary to enable the reader to characterize the morality of this sort of mediation. We are again reminded of MACHEATH:

"I have a fixed confidence, gentlemen, in you all, as men of honour, and as such I value and respect you. *Prochaska is a man that is useful to us.*"

With reference to the rest of this remarkable testimony we have no remarks to make, except to say that the allegation of private grounds of hostility to Mr. MACKEY amounts to absolute misrepresentation. The fact alleged by him to have been referred to in this relation, may have been incidentally mentioned in the course of the private conversation in question—but surely not for the purpose assumed by the witness, as he virtually admits in one part of his testimony. The interpretation sought to be put upon the fact by Captain B. is simply another indication of the low point of view from which he looks at the whole subject. In his apprehension nothing but some private dispute, it should seem, would justify, or could account for persistent opposition to the agents of political corruption.

SOMETHING BEYOND THE LIBEL SUIT.

The proceedings in the QUAY-COMMERCIAL libel suit are chiefly valuable to the public, and especially so to members of the Republican party, because they indicate the possibilities of the case, could the curtain be drawn compietely aside, and the operations of the political corruptionists be fairly and fully exposed. As it is we only get glimpses—detached facts—logical conclusions and the downright refusal of the representative of the ring, when placed upon his oath, to answer questions which go to the root of the prostitution of the politics and public service of the State to the basest purposes. The public will draw their own inferences from this refusal to testify. The paltry device, by which the attempt is made to gloss it over, is unworthy even of notice. There has been a great outcry about general charges and specific facts, but when a competent witness is placed upon the stand to prove specific facts, supporting the general charges made against the corruptionists, what do we get? An absolute refusal to testify. The witness is as speechless as the Sphynx. He screens himself behind the legal fence of his counsel, ignores the fact he brought the suit to vindicate his character, and faces a volley of questions, every one of which carried with it a necessary implication, with the most damaging silence. The public has—can have but one inference.

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THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.

The State Treasury and Speakership Questions—The Voice of the Republican Press.

"Invisible," the Harrisburg correspondent of the Altoona *Radical*, writing on the 14th, says: "The State Treasurership is not quite so one-sided as when I wrote last week. Then the Mackey men ridiculed Irwin's strength, but now they are disposed to accord him all the rights of a belligerent power, and Quay, of the Beaver *Radical*, has assumed a much less confident attitude. I never was much at figures, and confess I don't see anything on the surface to occasion any Belshazzaring. It can't be the Legislature is getting fluff-y. It is scarcely all occasioned by the report that the virtuous Elisha is feeding the rural ravens, nor can it be all due to the transfer from the cool pocket of Wm. B. Mann of that delicious sweet meat—that veritable Bunn—to the capacious carpet-sack of Irwin. Just why those mysterious telegrams and confused utterances and suppressed whisperings, I dinna ken."

The Chester *Republican*, referring to the contest between Gen. Irwin and Mr. Mackey for State Treasurer, says: The friends of the former, in and out of the Legislature, are numerous and influential, and the prospects are that they will win. Mr. Irwin is a gentleman of decided talent and financial ability, and having served as Treasurer, understands thoroughly the duties appertaining to the position. He is honest, and would give to the Commonwealth a good, competent and reliable officer. Mr. Mackey, we believe, is known among politicians at Harrisburg, as the "ring" and if this organization is broken, of course the present State Treasurer falls with it.

The Lawrence *Journal* of last week has the following editorial: "The Pittsburgh *Gazette* tries to cover up its tracks on the matter of "rings" and other sources of political corruption, by publishing a long winded article on the State Treasurer business, in which it says that the question touching the use of corrupt means to secure the election of Mr. Mackey last year, should be referred to a select committee of the Legislature, and calls upon Republican papers throughout the State to support this view of the matter. Now, with all deference to the opinion, whether real or pretended, of the *Gazette*, we must say that the reference of the subject to a committee is entirely unnecessary. As we look at the matter the people have no personal quarrel with Mr. Mackey, except in so far as he was the instrument of other parties. It is apparent that the election of Mr. Mackey was the result of a combination, and it is due to the people that all such combinations be rebuked in whatever interest they may be used. Every one knows how the legislative committee was managed, and to our mind any result arrived at through the agency of such a committee could not fail to be eminently unsatisfactory to the people. If the charges of corruption are of such a nature as to demand public investigation, there is no tribunal to which they could be referred, so free from legislative control as to so entirely unsatisfactory, as a legislative committee. We believe that every unprejudiced man in this Commonwealth will join us in this view of the subject. It looks to us as though the *Gazette* was trying to get up a "packed" committee in the interest of Mr. Mackey. Any recurrence of such quarrels in the future may, and should be remedied by the passage of a law, the coming session, making the office of State Treasurer elective, and providing that no State Treasurer be eligible to re-election for two consecutive terms. This rule is necessary for county Treasurers, it strikes us that it applies with double force to the office of State Treasurer."

After alluding to the charges and counter-charges of the friends of Messrs. Mackey and Irwin, candidates for State Treasurer, the Scranton *Republican* says: "One thing is certain, viz: The office of State Treasurer pays a salary of less than $1,800 per annum, and few men would consent to lose their friends and make so bitter a fight for them for a position which is not desirable either in point of profit or honor, unless there was some other incentive. What that incentive is it is not difficult to conjecture. We trust that the Legislature, when the time comes for the election of State Treasurer, will promptly lay Mr. Mackey and Gen. Irwin on the shelf, and elect some honest man who does not seek the office."

The Ebensburg *Alleghenian* says: What are the politics of the State coming to? Here is the Beaver *Radical* publicly asserting that "the slate" of appointees for the next Legislature is already made up, and that Mackey is not in for Treasurer. And here, again, is Father Abraham, of Lancaster, just as loudly asseverating that *another* "slate" is constructed, and that Irwin is the man for Treasurer. We would like very much to see these professional tricksters—these modest persons who assume the control of the interests of the entire State—blotted by the next Legislature; and we know to-day in which "slate" we will done as well as by electing George Heff Treasurer.

The Lancaster *Express* is having a controversy with the *Examiner and Herald*, that city's Treasurer question, and in a late issue the former says:—"The *Examiner* persists in charging that Gen. Irwin's election as State Treasurer two years ago was obtained corruptly, and that $58,000 was spent for that purpose. We are assured by those who are generally well posted in such matters that the money spent on that occasion was not by Gen. Irwin or in his interest, and that the editor of the *Examiner* could tell, if he were candid enough to do so, for what purpose it was used. We never heard the stories of corruption so prevalent at the organization of the House this year charged, and if the *Herald* will we saw it in the *Examiner*. We are not the champion of Gen. Irwin, but from the confidence reposed in him by men of unquestioned integrity, who know him well as a man and a public officer, we are justified in believing that his election as State Treasurer would reflect no discredit upon his friends who urge him for that position. The simple fact that he is so bitterly assailed by the organs of Mackey, Quay & Co., is of itself strong circumstantial evidence of his fitness for the responsible position, and that the treasury thieves would receive no aid and comfort during his administration of the State finances."

The Lykens (Dauphin county) *Register* in an editorial on the Treasurer subject, says: "The most important duty, probably that will devolve upon the Legislature soon to assemble at Harrisburg, is in the choice of a man to preside over the treasury of the Commonwealth—a position which, in point of responsibility, under existing laws, is second in importance to no office in the State. In managing the public moneys, which are at the sole disposition of the Treasurer, he annually handles to $2,000,000, and rarely ever less than $1,000,000, the utmost care should be taken in selecting for the trust an *honest* man, who will apply the funds to the interest of the people, the people, whose agent he is, and not to his own personal aggrandizement.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.

"Invisible," writing to the Altoona *Radical* from Harrisburg, on the 14th, says: "The Speakership snake is dragging his slow length along apparently unmindful of the wishings of an honest Republican press and people. That the Republican masses may know what to expect if B. B. Strang is elected, I took the trouble to look up his political record. He was a member of the House in '60 and '61 and advocated and voted for the repeal of the tonnage tax. Then he refused, in 1867, to sign an act that measure submitted, when he contained in his presentation of misrepresentation the party acted defying its wishes. Since then he has been the champion of every glib enterprise and lottery swindle brought before the House. His course on the pasting and folding outrage is fresh in the minds of all. I heard him make his speech in favor of that measure, and listened to him as he defied public opinion and proclaimed it a measure advocated only to give each Republican member an office."

On the same subject, the Ebensburg *Alleghenian* says: "It is asserted by those who pretend to know that Strang, of Tioga, will certainly be elected Speaker of the next House of Representatives. His chief claims for the office consist in that he was the especial champion of the 'paster and folder' swindle of last session. The Republican party are now loudly demanding *reform* in the administration of State affairs. The election of Strang will be the administering of the cut direct to this demand. One consolation is that there will yet come a day of judgment for the faithless leaders who support 'the gentleman from Tioga' against the wishes of the people. The Democratic nominee for the same office will probably be the notorious Sam Josephs, of Philadelphia. His reputation as a professional trickster is too well known to require mention. The two great parties of the State have descended to a very low depth indeed, when they can consent to recognize Strang as a leader on the one hand, and Josephs on the other."

Father Abraham says: "With the exception of a paper here and there owned by and 'run' in the interest of the ring of corruptionists, the Republican Press throughout the State, with remarkable unanimity, is squarely on the side of radical and positive reform. We cannot believe that the errors of last year will or can be repeated during the coming session, or that the voice of the Republican people, so emphatically expressed at the last election, will be disregarded. Yet, it is well to keep the subject constantly and prominently before the public. The ring is reckless, powerful and crafty, and needs constant watching. The only safety is in having nothing at all to do with it; to work and vote against its candidates; to knock down its 'set up' and to demolish whatever 'slate' it may present at time of organization."

BUSINESS PROSPECTS.

The Recent Failures at the East—Attempt to Create a Panic.

The recent failures in New York, and in some of the other Eastern cities, are made the basis of an attempt to spread distrust throughout the commercial community, which is one of the evidences of a general panic. But the facts do not warrant the apprehensions that are felt in some quarters. Failures occur in this country in large numbers every year, and especially towards the close of the year, as the time for a general settlement approaches. A prominent merchant in New York, discusses the question briefly and to the point in a communication to the *Evening Post* of Saturday afternoon. He says:

We receive from one of the mercantile agencies a weekly sheet giving the list of failures through the country—by comparing this year with last, I find they reported as follows:

1868.		1869.	
Week ending		Week ending	
November 5	121	November 4	91
November 12	139	November 17	81
November 27	109	November 25	125
December 3	119	December 2	110
December 10	131	December 9	128
December 17	182	December 16	154
For 1868	842	For 1869	679

These figures speak for themselves. Another fact is, that before the war all the large jobbing houses in New York bought their goods on credit—often as long as eight months—and had their notes out to a very large amount. Now, all of these houses buy their goods on thirty and sixty days.

Another fact is, that the amount of first-class dry goods paper to be found in brokers' hands is very small, and any good commission house acceptances, with four months to run, will sell at 2½ per cent. This I know. We have almost daily calls from note brokers ready to buy largely of dry goods and offering for such name paper at 10 to 12½ per cent. Of course second-class paper is higher.

The fact is, the Wall street "bears" are doing all they can to create a panic, which, of course, would break the price of stocks.

One thing is sure, if the merchants were not strong and doing a large business on real capital, enough has been said in the newspapers to create a panic that would be terrible.

The writer also says that some of the firms, reported as very heavy, which have failed, are in reality insignificant houses that many concerns would not trust for five hundred dollars.

Chief Justice Breese, of the Supreme Court of Illinois, has in hand a history of that State from its earliest date, including the Jesuit explorations and discoveries, and of the Indian tribes of the then wild territory down to the present day. It will be one of the most complete histories that has yet been written of any of the States of the Union.

CONGRESS AND THE COURTS.

The Jurisdiction of the Supreme Courts Over Acts of Congress.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The proposition in Congress to forbid the Supreme Court passing upon the constitutionality of an act of Congress, supported as it has been by men of ability and patriotism, is startling and alarming. The reasoning of Senator Drake, who introduced it, and your correspondent "Americus," who recently and elaborately discussed it, both of whom I believe to be actuated by good motives, is fallacious and dangerous. I propose as briefly as I can, although the importance of the subject deserves elaboration, to give a few reasons emphatically against the proposition; and in doing so I shall quote from No. 78 of the *Federalist*, wherein the question is more ably discussed by Mr. Alexander Hamilton than I have power to discuss it. And in passing I remark that Senator Drake's historical research has been superficial, for he says that the "proposition is original," as he terms the asserted right of the Supreme Court to declare a law of Congress unconstitutional, had foreign sixty-six years ago under the lead of Chief Justice Marshall. The most casual reader of history must know that this very subject was a living issue prior to the adoption of the Constitution, and that Mr. Hamilton's views therein were the Commonwealth by the people then and have continued to be the rule in all courts, State as well as Federal, to the present day.

I agree with "Americus" that it is the duty of the Legislature to make the laws, of the Judiciary to expound and apply them, and of the Executive to execute them, and in so agreeing I urge that the proposition is more important than he seems to think it is. He holds that the Legislature cannot only pass an act, but has power—sole power—to say that it is *law*, and lay it down as a rule for the courts to apply and the Executive to execute. That will deny to the courts the right to expound, and therefore negative one of the elements of his own proposition. It is conferring on the right of the courts to say what the law is and apply it. Now in what way must the courts ascertain the law? The constitution itself provides the rule. Section II, Article 6, provides: "This *constitution* and the laws of the United States, which shall be made in *pursuance thereof*, and all treaties made, or which shall be made under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land." This provision is remarkable. First is the Constitution, which is the law of the people. Its provisions cannot be changed in any other manner than that which itself prescribes. No act of Congress can change them. Next are the laws of the United State made in pursuance of the Constitution; they are the acts of the people's agents. It is a fundamental rule that the acts of an agent are binding on the principal when they come within the delegated authority. Congress is only authorized to pass laws that agree with the Constitution, and such laws only are binding on the people. Acts conflicting with the Constitution are not made in pursuance of the Constitution, and are therefore not laws, and the courts cannot expound and apply them.

Suppose Congress should pass a bill of attainder or an *ex post facto* law, and a case involving either should come before the Supreme Court; would it be said for a moment that the Court must expound and apply it? The Constitution prohibits the passage of such measures, and it is first the supreme law of the land around which every other law must revolve. The judges are sworn to support the constitution, but how can they support it by giving power to a law that it prohibits? And yet this is what Mr. Drake and "Americus" contend for—the judges must obey the law made by the people and enforce the law made by the people's agents contrary to the people's law. But it may be said that my illustration is an unfair one—that Congress will never pass a law that the Constitution prohibits. That is the very question. Any power *not* given by the Constitution is expressly withheld. It is not necessary to inquire whether the Constitution expressly prohibits a thing, but whether it gives the power to do the thing; and if the courts have the power, as no one will seriously attempt to pronounce a bill of attainder or *ex post facto* law, contrary to the Constitution and void, because they are expressly prohibited, what reason is there for contending that they have not the power to declare unconstitutional a law, to pass which the Constitution gives Congress no power? Who is to determine whether a law is made in pursuance of the Constitution or Congress? No, for it is invested with no judicial power. The Executive? No, because his duty is simply to execute the law when passed by Congress and expounded by the courts. The power of the general government being lodged in three branches, and neither of these two possessing the power, it follows that to the other, the Judiciary, belongs the power to determine whether a law is made in pursuance of the Constitution.

If the expression under consideration had been omitted, Mr. Drake and "Americus" would be greatly reinforced. The provision would then be "This Constitution and the laws of the United States shall be the supreme law of the land." But the laws of the United States are not the law of the land unless they are made in pursuance of the Constitution. This provision was intended to mean something, though Mr. Drake and "Americus" must think that it does not mean anything. It does mean something, however, and its only meaning can be that the Courts are to enforce the laws of the Constitution, and the laws of Congress that do not conflict with it.

But there is more in the Constitution. The first paragraph of Section 2, Article 3, provides: "The judicial power shall extend to all cases in law and equity arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States," &c. The cases that may so arise are numerous, and one may now arise, by way of illustration, involving the construction of a provision of the Constitution as well as an act of Congress. In such a case, it cannot be denied that the Court has the power to declare the rule laid down by the Constitution. Now suppose that that rule be very different from the rule laid down by the act of Congress, which rule must the Court be governed by in pronouncing judgment? The only answer is the rule of the Constitution, because it is superior. The act of Congress being inferior and contrary to the Constitution, is void and must be held to be no law.

In number 78 of the *Federalist*, Mr. Hamilton makes the following observations:

"The complete independence of the courts of justice is peculiarly essential in a limited constitution. By a limited constitution, I understand one which contains certain specified exceptions to the legislative authority; such for instance as that it shall pass no bills of attainder, no *ex post facto* laws, and the like. Limitations of this kind can be preserved in practice no other way than through the medium of courts of justice, *whose duty it must be to declare all acts contrary to the manifest tenor of the constitution void. Without this, all the reservations of particular rights or privileges would amount to nothing.*"

He then says some perplexity respecting this right "has arisen from an *imagination* that the doctrine would imply a superiority of the judiciary to the legislative power." This number of the *Federalist* was published in 1788, fifteen years before the time Mr. Drake says the "dogma" had its origin. At that time the enemies of the Constitution held the same views now advanced by the Senator and "Americus," though they admitted that the judiciary was invested with that right, but denied that facts an objection to the Constitution.

I quote again from Mr. Hamilton:

"There is no position which depends on clearer principles than that every act of a delegated authority, contrary to the tenor of the commission under which it is exercised is void. No Legislative act, therefore, contrary to the Constitution, can be valid. To deny this would be to affirm, that the Representatives of the people are superior to the people themselves."

If it be said that the Legislative body are themselves the Constitutional judges of their own powers, and that construction they put upon them conclusive upon the other departments, it may be answered that this can not be the natural presumption where it is supposed that a particular provision in the Constitution. It is not otherwise to be supposed that the constitution could intend to enable the Representatives of the people to substitute their will to that of their constituents. It is far more rational to suppose that the courts were designed to be an intermediate body between the people and the Legislature in order, among other things, to keep the latter within the limits assigned to their authority. The interpretation of the laws is the proper and peculiar province of the courts.

A Constitution is a fundamental law; it belongs to the judges to ascertain its meaning; should there be irreconcilable difference between it and an act of the Legislature that should be preferred that has the superior obligation and validity—the Constitution to the Statute. Such a conclusion does not suppose a superiority of the judicial to the legislative power; but that the power of the people is superior to both, and that where an act stands in opposition to the will of the people expressed in the Constitution, the judges should be governed by the latter rather than the former. He illustrates by the power of Courts to determine between two contradictory laws, neither of which has any repealing clause. It is the province of the Court to liquidate and fix their meaning, to reconcile them if possible, but if not, to give effect to one in exclusion of the other; the last in order of time to be preferred. In the interfering acts of a superior and inferior authority the converse is to be followed, and where a statute contravenes the Constitution it is the duty of Courts to adhere to the latter and disregard the former.

"It can be of no weight to say that the courts, on the pretense of a repugnancy, may substitute their own pleasure to the constitutional intentions of the Legislature. This might as well happen in the case of two contradictory statutes or it might as well happen in every adjudication upon any single statute. The courts must declare the sense of the law, and if they should be disposed to exercise will instead of judgment, the consequence would equally be the substitution of their pleasure to that of the legislative body."

Mr. Hamilton follows with an argument on the independence of the Court, and shows that it is necessary to protect the constitution from infractions by the Legislature acting by a majority of the people in occasional ill humors, to protect the private rights of particular classes of citizens, against unjust and partial laws, to mitigate the severity and confine the operation of such laws.

This view of the power of the Judiciary is fortified in many places in other numbers of the *Federalist*. Every student of history is aware how much the *Federalist* contributed to the adoption of the Constitution, and how generally its views were concurred in by the people. The Constitution was opposed by its enemies on the same ground now occupied by Mr. Drake and "Americus," but notwithstanding their arguments it became the supreme law of the land. It adoption its friends, and even its enemies, as already shown, conceded that it conferred upon the Judiciary the power now denied. That idea passed into the decisions of the Supreme Court and every State court in the nation. It has been acquiesced in by the bench, the bar, Congress and State Legislatures ever since. Even if it were not right in principle, it has at least been in force long enough to give it the character of the common law of the land. An act of Congress cannot repeal it, for such an act itself would be unconstitutional. It would be, to say the least, indelicate for Congress to enact such a measure, If good government demands a denial of the power, let Mr. Drake put his idea into a constitutional amendment, so that the people, who are the only sovereigns, may say whether it shall become a law or not. JUDICIARY.

THE CLEVELAND BANK DEFALCATION.

And the Boylston Bank Robbery, with their Probable Consequences—A Warning to Bank Directors.

The newspapers state that the stockholders of the Second National Bank of Cleveland, as well as the owners of the special deposits of bonds which had been left in the Bank for safe keeping, contemplate instituting proceedings against the directors to test their liability for the losses incurred by that institution in consequence of the misappropriation of the funds of the Bank, and the appropriation of the securities of special deposits by its late cashier.

The provisions of the national currency act impose a heavy responsibility on the directors of national banks, while it would be well for them to fully understand and consider. Section 5 provides, *inter alia*, "That every association, etc., shall have and exercise under this act all such incidental powers as shall be necessary to carry on the business of banking by discounting and negotiating promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange and other evidences of debt; by receiving deposits; by buying and selling exchange, coin and bullion; by loaning money on personal security; by obtaining, issuing and circulating notes according to the provisions of this act," &c.

Section nine provides that "each director when appointed or elected, shall take an oath that he will, so far as the duty devolves on him, diligently and honestly administer the affairs of such association, and will not knowingly violate, or willingly permit to be violated, any of the provisions of this act," etc.

Section thirty-seven provides that no association shall, at any time, be indebted or *to any way liable* to an amount exceeding the amount of its capital stock at such time, actually paid in and remaining undiminished by losses or otherwise, except on the following accounts, that is to say:

First. On account of its notes of circulation.

Second. On account of the moneys deposited with, or collected by, such association.

Third. On account of bills of exchange or drafts drawn against money actually on deposit to the credit of such association or due thereto.

Fourth. On account of liabilities to its stockholders for dividends and reserved profits.

Section fifty three provides that "if the Directors of any association shall knowingly violate, or knowingly permit any of the officers, agents, or servants of the association, to violate any of the provisions of this act, all the rights, privileges and franchises of the association derived from this act shall be thereby forfeited; such violation shall, however, be determined and adjudged by a proper circuit, district or territorial court of the United States, in a suit brought for that purpose by the Comptroller of the Currency in his own name, before the association shall be declared dissolved, and in cases of such violation, *every Director who participated in, or assented to the same, shall be held liable in his personal and individual capacity*, for all damages which its shareholders or any other person shall have sustained in consequence of such violation."

In the case of the Second National Bank of Cleveland, it would appear that the Cashier, in direct violation of their oaths allowed the bank to manage the entire affairs of the bank, regardless of the duties devolved upon them under the provisions of section nine, which required them diligently and honestly to administer the affairs of the bank, and not knowingly to violate, or willingly permit to be violated any of its provisions." In assuming the position of Directors, they necessarily assumed all the responsibilities imposed thereto, and if they are charged and held personally and individually responsible under the provisions of Section 52, for violations of duty, for I hold that the power to perform a duty deliberately assumed, is a violation thereof, they should not complain. Again, if the cashier or officers of that institution, with the knowledge of the directors, received deposits after the bank was insolvent, or securities for safe keeping, it being an act foreign to the business for which national banks were created as set forth in Section 8, and no power, express or implied, being given therefor, in any Section of the National Currency Act, they clearly violated it, and if compelled to pay the value of those securities when extracted, they have no proper grounds for complaint.

In the case of the Boylston National Bank of Boston, from the vault of which special deposits in tin boxes to the amount of half a million of dollars were taken by a professional burglar, there is a flagrant and open violation of common law principles, as well as total disregard of provisions of the National Currency act. There is no obligation on any bank, National or State, to receive bonds or special deposits for safe keeping, but when they do so, the receiver has the highest necessarily implies, under the ordinary principles laid down by the courts, to take care of the trust and keep securely; in fact, it is no forced construction of law to say that they should be kept in the same place where the money and valuables of the bank are kept; but, instead of so doing, these tin boxes were placed in a separate vault, were stolen—and the money and property of the bank left untouched. The violations of the National Currency act in this instance are the same as in the case of the Cleveland bank, except, perhaps, that both stockholders and directors were privy thereto. For it is impossible to suppose that where a portion of the vault termed the Safe Deposit was used exclusively for the safe keeping of special deposits, it was not known to the stockholders as well as to the Directors. Every communication that has been addressed to the Comptroller of the Currency at Washington by bank officers on the subject of keeping bonds and other valuables on special deposit, has received the uniform answer that no disapproval of the practice, and that in so doing the banks not only incur a liability, but also transcend their powers under the act of Congress. The warnings afforded in the cases of the two banks referred to should not go unheeded

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

MID-DAY EVENING, December 20, 1869.

The general tone of the local money market to-day was thought to be easier, although the volume of discount transactions was not materially increased. Many of the banks and discount houses have been pursuing such a conservative course that they find their means have greatly increased, and once the New Year has turned, may be able to enlarge their discount lines liberally and relieve the wants of all those who may have claims upon them.

—It is remarked by one of our Eastern dailies that one of the greatest difficulties to be surmounted in the resumption of specie payments is the inequality and injustice it involves in the settlement of contracts entered into during suspension. Such contracts have been made by States, counties, cities and corporations in all parts of the country, to an extent far in excess of the entire National debt, and their settlement in gold can scarcely be effected without serious loss and a corresponding derangement of commercial interests.

Whilst we do not deny that there is an apparent hardship involved in the process, it is one apparent than real when viewed squarely in the light of facts. When specie payments were suspended soon after the breaking out of the war, all existing contracts had been made on a specie basis, and the legal tender act declaring the latter at par was at a premium, which was liable to uncertain fluctuations according to the contingencies of the war. That act, declared those contracts solved by the tender to the creditor of the amount due in depreciated currency. By the resumption of specie payments the position of debtor and creditor are reversed, which seems to adjust the inequalities arising from suspension. But even supposing that some injustice is inseparable from the process of resumption, it never can equal the losses which must be shared in alike by debtors and creditors, as long as it is postponed. It must moreover be borne in mind that with an insidious and ever fluctuating currency, no contract can be made even on sixty or ninety days without some loss accruing to the parties from this cause. It is, therefore, to the interest of all parties that this uncertain evil should give place, at the earliest possible day, to a new order of things, which shall restore confidence and stability to commercial values. The only agency by which this can be effected is the resumption of specie payments, and to this all sensible people naturally turn, as the great panacea for our national evils.

—Government bonds were firmer and higher and closed at the advanced prices.

—The gold market has been again weak, the price having ranged between 120¾ and 121, with but little speculative movement. There is considerable doubt as to whether Mr. Boutwell will fulfill the intention in his sales for the remainder of the month; but the prevailing impression appears to be that the policy will be whatever course the Secretary may adopt.

—The stock market has been dull and weak, prices having lowered throughout the list. The continued decline in gold has produced a bearish feeling among operators, and selling in the order of the day. If the present state of things be continued the market is likely to become so oversold as to result in an upward reaction.

The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Exchange Office, 89 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

December 20, 1869.	10 00 A M	12 30 P M	1 30 P M	3 00 P M
New York Central	187¾	188½	188½	188½
Erie	37¾	38	38	38
Harlem	130	130	130	130
Reading	96¾	96¾	96¾	96¾
Mich. Central	122	122	122	122
Mich. South	84½	84½	84½	84½
Illinois Central	132			
Cleve. and Pitts.	92	93	93	93
Chicago and North.	65¾	66¾	66¾	66¾
do preferred	84½	85	85	85
Rock Island	104¾	104¾	104¾	104¾
St. Paul	47¾	47¾	47¾	47¾
do pref.	77½	77½	77½	77½
Tol. and Wabash	59	60	60	60
do preferred				
Fort Wayne	87¾	88½	88½	88½
Chicago and Alton	139½			
Ohio and Miss.	29¾	29¾	29¾	29¾
Western U. Tel.	81½	82	82	82
Pacific Mail	47	47¾	47¾	47¾
Adams Express	69¾	69¾	69¾	69¾
Wells, Fargo & Co.	57¾	57¾	57¾	57¾
American M. U. Ex.	38½	38½	38½	38½
United States Ex.	75	75	75	75
Merch. U. Ex.	95½	19	19	19

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 89 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building,) dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Being represented in the New York Stock Boards every day while in session, he purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the New York brokers. Governments, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY EVENING, December 20, 1869.

Trade to-day was quiet in most branches of business, and there was but little change to note in prices. We quote as follows the wholesale store prices unless otherwise specified:

APPLES—Sales of 100 bbls common at $2 12 ₱ bbl. We quote prime to choice $2 75@3 00, and extra $3 00 ₱ bbl.

APPLE BUTTER—We quote sales at 75@90c ₱ gallon, as to quality.

BUTTER—In good prime to choice roll at 30@35c ₱ lb. Common 28@30c ₱ lb. Packed 25@ 27c ₱ lb.

BEANS—Moderately active at $2 50@2 75 for mediums and for navies $2 75@3 00 ₱ bushel.

EGGS—We quote fresh at 35c ₱ dozen, and pickled at 30@35c ₱ dozen, with a full supply of the latter on hand.

CORN MEAL—Good to choice may be quoted at $1 60@1 70 ₱ bushel.

CRANBERRIES—We quote fair to extra cultivated at $12@13 ₱ bbl.

CIDER—Prices run from $5 00@8 00 ₱ bbl as to quality. The receipts are liberal.

CHEESE—The market is quiet with a moderate demand for good cheese, which is in fair receipt. We quote Western Reserve at 17½c; Limburg at 18c; Ohio Factory at 15½c to 16c; Ohio Goshen at 19½c; New York Goshen at 20½c; Sweitzer 26@28c, and Limberger 18@20c ₱ lb.

HAY—Sales from country wagons at $15@20 ₱ ton, as to quality.

STRAW—Sales at $12 00 ₱ ton.

HIDES—Sales at 8½@9c ₱ lb.

DRIED FRUIT—Apples are active at 8@9c. Dried peaches slow at 16@18c ₱ lb. Pealed peaches are quoted at 19@20c ₱ lb.

LARD OIL—There is a good demand for this. Pittsburgh winter strained at $1 67½@ 1 70 for No. 1 and $1 60@1 65 ₱ gallon No. 2.

ONIONS—We quote at $5 00@6 00 ₱ bbl.

DRESSED HOGS—Sales in the Diamond market at $12@13 ₱ cwt, as to size and quality. Receipts light.

POULTRY—Market inactive at 18c for dressed turkeys; chickens 14c; ducks 16c ₱ lb. Dressed geese slow of sale at 10c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—Sales on the track by the car load at 75c ₱ bushel for Lake Shore Peachblows, and from store at 85@90c ₱ bushel. A few country wagons sales are making in a retail way at 65c ₱ bushel. Prime to choice Jersey sweets sell at $5 00@5 50 ₱ bbl.

FEATHERS—Choice No. 1 geese feathers sell at 85c@$1 00 ₱ lb, and a good to prime 60@65c ₱ lb.

SALT—There is a fair retail demand at $2 00 ₱ barrel, and to the trade at $1 90 ₱ barrel.

SEEDS—There is little inquiry in second. Clover seed is nominal from store, (and only selling in a retail way,) as it ranges $6 ₱ bushel for good to choice. Timothy seed is hardly ever inquired for and prices are entirely nominal. Timothy from $3 50 to 4 00 ₱ bushel. Flaxseed quoted nominally $2 80@2 85 ₱ bushel.

TALLOW—There is a moderate local demand for choice brands of flour. Good to choice wrigley wheat flour sells at $5 00@5 25 ₱ barrel, and fair to choice spring at $5 25@5 75 ₱ barrel. Low and common grades are entirely nominal in prices.

RYE FLOUR—We quote rye flour at $5 25 @5 50 ₱ bbl.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Sales at $4 00@4 50 ₱ cwt, as to quality.

MILL FEED—We quote bran at 95c@$1c; shorts, at $1 20@1 25, and middlings at $1 50@1 60, as to quality ₱ cwt.

WHISKY—Market quiet but firm. We quote high wines at $1 06, consulting; refined $1 05, and proof rectified $1 15 ₱ gallon.

GRAIN—There is a fair feeling in grain. Red winter wheat in depot is nominally $1 15@1 20 ₱ bush, as to quality. New corn of a choice quality is scarce and commands 75c ₱ bush. Old ear or shelled commands 80@81 ₱ bush on track or in store. Oats on the track are quoted at 60@65c ₱ bush. Rye is in moderate receipt and selling at 90@$1 ₱ bush for prime to choice in depot or elevator. Barley is nominal at from $1 10 to $1 25 ₱ bushel as to quality, very little selling above the latter figure and some below the former.

Philadelphia Sheep Market.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HESTONVILLE, December 20, 4 P. M.

Eleven thousand sheep arrived, Market dull, selling 50c lower than last week. Thirteen hundred left over.

J. L. A.

PITTSBURGH OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY December 21, 1869.

The crude oil market is dull this morning opened at 16c, advanced to 16¾c, and closed at 16@16¼c. Refined was dull and weak, with sales for December at 30¾@30½c. The closing market at Philadelphia at five o'clock this evening is reported by the Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph as follows:

Market continued very quiet to-day. December is more in demand this morning opened at 30¾c bid, and 30¾@31c asked; for lines the demand is fair, but buyers not willing to pay asking rates. January and February 30½c bid; March 30c bid; no sales. Crude 16½c bid, sales 1,250 bbls December at 16¾c; 1,000 do at 16¾c.

The sales reported in this market were as follows:

CRUDE OIL.

1,000 bbls spot at	16½c
1,000 bbls spot at	16¾c
1,000 bbls spot	16¾c
1,000 bbls spot at	16¾c
1,250 bbls spot at	16¾c
1,000 bbls S. O. December at	16¾c
3,000 bbls S. O. December at	16¾c
1,000 bbls S. O. December	16¾c
1,000 bbls S. O. December, free on board	
for private parties at Oil City	16½c
2,000 bbls this water (5 to 45) at	16½c
2,000 bbls S. O. December (a put $40) paid	
for privilege	16½c

REFINED OIL.

500 bbls December at	29½c
1,000 bbls December at	30½c

RECEIPTS BY RIVER.

The receipts by river, since our published report yesterday morning, from the commencement of the previous rise in the Allegheny river, as made by the steamer's books kept by W. S. McGee, were as follows:

C. Raine	1,727	J. Mawhinney	1,232
Fisher Bros.	1,206	J. M Marshall	1,280
Foster Bros.	1,206	J. M Marshall	1,280
Reporter	600	Wagner & Leech	345
Previously reported			59,121
Total			73,419

DISPATCHES.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

NEW YORK, December 20.—Closing Saturday afternoon, gold 120¾@120¾. Very little demand. Refined selling slowly with prices nominally held at 30½c. Crude 16½c. Shipping delivery to-day's first sales by weight —lot of 1,000 bbls last half January delivery freight paid, 16½c. Afternoon, no other sales of 1,000 bbls New York delivery expired at 30½c; 1,000 bbls balance month 30½c; for Philadelphia delivery; 2,000 bbls refined standard white December 30½c, 30½c; 1,000 bbls polebright 31½c, extra for third and prime white.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Closing Saturday —crude in bulk 16½@16¾c; crude in bbls held at 17½c and firm; refined dull at 30½@31c.

OIL CITY, December 20, 11:30 A. M.—Sales on lower creek at 31 90; no sales of importance, the market being dull at the market to any extent. 45 20 is the nominal figure here.

NEW YORK, December 20, 12:30 M.—Dull and prices nominal at 16¾@16¾c for crude, and 30½ @31c for refined.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20, 1:00 P. M.—Philadelphia market weak. P. L. S. to W. 30c; S. W. 30½c.

NEW YORK, December 20, 2:15 P. M.—Dull and prices unchanged.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph.]

PHILADELPHIA, December 20,—Market quiet and unchanged. Refined in bbls, 30½c; free, with 20¢@30¢ rebate, and 30½c packed; January to March 31½c; January to June 31½c. Crude 16¾c in bbls.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20, 11 A. M.—Market quiet, offering at 31 60.

PETROLEUM CENTRE, December 20, 12:45 A. M. Market quiet; crude nominally about 31½@32 4 90. Nothing doing.

TITUSVILLE, December 20, 12:30 P. M.—Market quiet and prices dull; prices nominally 31 75@ 32 00.

LEASANTVILLE, December 20, 11:00 A. M.—Market firm at 31 25.

PITTSBURGH, PA., December 20, 11:00 A. M.—Market very quiet at 30 29@30 29½ no sales.

Oil Receipts by River and Rail.

Lockhart, E. & Co.	1,020	J. Mawhinney	
Coates & S.	40	O. S Tomas	80
Fisher Bros.	1,206	Reporter	600
McKeevy Bros.	372	J. Mawhinney	1,095
Wagner & Leech	345		
Total			4,967

Oil Shipped East by A. V. R. R.

McKeevy & Bros, 26 bbls refined to W P Logan & Bro, Philadelphia.

Lockhart, E. & Co, 26 bbls refined to W P Logan & Bro, Philadelphia.

Coates & Stewart & Co, 26 bbls refined to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Fisher Bros, 26 bbls refined to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Total shipments Refined.....1,119 bbls
Total Shipment Paraffine.....190 bbls

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

MONDAY EVENING, December 20, 1869.

CATTLE.—The run of cattle was fair; aggregating near 800 head. The quality was generally good, and sales were unusually fine and ready. Choice cattle met with a fair sale, at $7 50@8 00 per cwt., and some very choice cattle sold at higher rates. Good to prime steers sold at $7 00@7 50 per cwt., other grades ranged from $4 00 to 6 00 per cwt.

There were some extra sheep, or Christmas sheep, on sale and they was sold at high figures. The best steer on sale and sold for a regular choice was bought by Christian Geltmer, of 195 Smithfield street, Pittsburgh, near seventh avenue, and will be exhibited in front of that place of business on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The steer is but three and a half years old and weighs over 2,000 lbs. Mr. Geltmer paid for this animal 12½ cents ₱ live weight, and his many patrons will have a chance to taste the meat on Christmas day.

J. Shamberg bought a three and regarding over 500 lbs. @ 8c ₱ lb, which we understand are to be raffled off on Wednesday or Thursday. The steer of Mr. Seltzner was purchased of Marks & Bro, who also sold to J. Heth-burger, of Allegheny, a steer, weighing 1,730 lbs, at 12c ₱ lb, and to J. F. Smith one of 2,000 lbs at 12½c ₱ lb. Several other cattle were sold at from 10c to 12c ₱ lb. All our regular butchers procured their meat in the market to-day, which is and will be well supplied during the Christmas week. Nearly all the cattle on sale were disposed of. Hogs—The supply was fair and market dull. Sales were made in 89@11 50 ₱ cwt., in a wholesale way, and in a retail way for very choice at $11 50@12 50 ₱ cwt., very few bringing the latter figures.

SHEEP—There was only a moderate supply and not a great demand. There was no very extra sheep offered, although the run generally was good, and for prime to choice 7½@8c ₱ lb was realized, with some of extra 8½c ₱ lb. Inferior and common brought from 3½ to 6½c, up to 3c ₱ lb as to quality. Lambs brought same prices as last week.

IRON.

IRONTON, OHIO.

The *Register* says: The market for metal is easy. The furnaces generally have only light stocks on hand, while some have sold up clean. Prices are characterized by firmness and are as follows:

Foundry, No. 1 H. B.	$41 00@46 00
Foundry, No. 2 H. B.	41 00@44 00
Mill	40 00@42 00
Gold Blast	60 00@64 00
Stone Coal, No. 1	43 00@44 00
Stone Coal, No. 2	39 00@41 00

Manufactured iron meets with a ready demand at 2½@2¾c. Nails are quiet at $4 50 for 10s.

The *Register* says: It is quite probable that some time this winter of towards spring the old mill will be started. Mr. Morgan furnace has been 218 blast 8,695 days, and made 60,000 tons of metal since the furnace was started in 1852, and for a few years at the start averaged 40 tons per day. Small things will be so fixed as to make cold or hot blast, just as the proprietor thinks he needs. Our furnacemen are unanimously watching to see whether the legislation of that body will be in favor of British or home furnaces.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

CHICAGO, December 20, 1869.

EASTERN EXCHANGE—¾ off buying, and par to ¼ premium selling.

GOLD—Dull and weak; sales of spring extras at 1 25@1 25.

WHEAT—Very dull and 1@2c lower; sales of No. 1 at 1 02@1 02½; No. 2 at 88@88½c; this afternoon market closed nominal; sales of No. 2 at 88½@88¾c; seller December; 88½c bid.

CORN—Dull and 1@2c lower, s. 77@80c for regular and fresh receipts of No. 2 and 78c for rejected, closing at 78c for December and 80c for regular grade of No. 2; this afternoon No. 2 nominally 76½.

OATS—Firm and 1@2c higher; No. 2 ranged at 57@58c, closing at the latter.

RYE—Steady and unchanged, closing at 75c for No. 2 strictly fresh.

BARLEY—Dull and nominal at 79@80c.

HOGS—Firm and 5@10c higher; sales at 8 00@8 50 for common to choice Ontarios.

PROVISIONS—Quiet. Mess pork opened firm at 21 00@21 25, and closed quiet and weak; sales nominal at 20 75@21 00; seller January, 21 00. Lard 17½@18c. Meats quiet; sales of green country shoulders at 10½c; sales of green country hams at 12½c; sales of sweet pickled hams at 14½@15c.

Dressed Hogs—Firmer at $7 25@8 00 for common; $7 75@8 25 for fair to medium; $8 50@11 00 for good to choice; $11 00@12 50 for extra.

CATTLE—Steady and no changed at $2 25@5 50 for common to fair to good, and $7 00@7 60 for choice shipping steers.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, December 20.—Flour steady; extra $4 75 @5 00; family $5 25@5 50; fancy $5 75@7 00. Wheat scarce and firmer; No. 1 red $1 20@1 21; amber $1 25@1 26. Corn quiet and unchanged; new 78@80c; old 85c. Oats dull at 60@62c. Rye dull at 90c@$1. Barley very dull at $1 00@1 20. Cotton quiet and dull; middling 22½@23c. Provisions steady and unchanged. Pork dull and lower, closing irregular at 20@20c. Hogs firmer; live weights $7 50@8 00; dressed $11 00@11 50; receipts for two days 1,800. Green meats firmer and all offered taken at 10½c. Bulk meats unchanged. Bacon firmer and higher for all but at the close. Bulk meats nominal; shoulders 12c; sides 13½c; sides 15½c; twenty-five days in salt and packed. Bacon shoulders 14½c; sides 16c; canvassed 16½c; fancy sugar cured hams 21@22c. Lard inactive; kettle 18½c; tierce 18c. Whisky dull and nominal at 96c. Butter scarce and firm at 35@38c. Egg firm at 35@36c and demand good. Linseed oil dull and drooping at 80@85c. Lard oil firm at $1 60@1 65. Petroleum steady and unchanged. Coffee firm at 20@ 21c for prime Rio. Sugar steady and unchanged; New Orleans 10@10½c. Coffee steady at 10@12c. No change in molasses; demand fair. Rice, Orleans 7½@8c. Lead 13@ 13½c. Tobacco quiet and unchanged.

Albany Cattle Market.

ALBANY, December 20.—Receipts for the week 2,500 head; few Christmas cattle offering and sales about the same as last week. The supply of sheep is fine, mostly extra, and sales to fair to choice at 6½@7½c; spring lambs and veal is well supplied during the Christmas week. Nearly all the cattle on sale were disposed of. Hogs—The supply was fair and market dull. Sales were made in 89@11 50 ₱ cwt., in a wholesale way, and in a retail way for very choice at $11 50@12 50 ₱ cwt., very few bringing the latter figures.

SHEEP—There was only a moderate supply and not a great demand. There was no very extra sheep offered, although the run generally was good, and for prime to choice 7½@8c ₱ lb was realized, with some of extra 8½c ₱ lb. Inferior and common brought from 3½ to 6½c, up to 3c ₱ lb as to quality. Lambs brought same prices as last week.

Detroit Market.

DETROIT, December 20.—Wheat a shade firmer at 1 01@1 01 for No. 1. Barley firm at $1 @$1 05 @1 20 for common to choice. Oats firm at 62@63c. Rye firm at 90c@$1. Corn firm at $1 @1 05 for ear. Flour steady; white wheat extras $5 20@5 60; family $6 00@6 50; fancy white wheat $7 00@7 50. Provisions firm and unchanged. Pork dull at $20 00@20 50. Lard dull at 17½@18c. Dressed hogs steady; heavy $12 25@12 50; light, and 160@170 lbs, $12 75@13 00.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Cotton dull and declining; sales of 1,300 bales at 25c for middling; sales for the week 14,000 bales; flour more active but prices without change; sales of 10,000 bbls at $5 25 for superfine State and western; $5 60@6 10 for extra State; $6 15@6 40 for extra western; $6 90@7 00 for white wheat extras; $5 20@6 00 for round hoop Ohio; $6 15@6 40 for extra do; $6 90@7 00 for good to choice do, closing quiet, including 5,200 bbls at $5 25@5 50 for superfine State; $5 60@6 10 for choice to extra do

The Daily Commercial.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 20, 1869.

TRAIN INSULTED.

George Francis Train found the doors of Cooper Institute closed in his face last evening, by order of the Board of Trustees, and his expected lecture therefore did not come off. He demands twenty-five hundred dollars damages.

SEVERE STORM—TRAINS DELAYED.

There was a heavy hail of snow in the vicinity of Port Nevis and west of that point on the Erie Road Saturday, which seriously delayed the running of trains west. The Chicago night express train arrived at Jersey City yesterday afternoon, covered with snow and ice, several hours behind time. The Cincinnati Express on the Central and Hudson River Road came in last evening covered with ice and sleet. The passengers state that the storm in the interior of the State was very severe.

SUSPICIOUS.

The departure of the ex-rebel ram Atlanta from below Philadelphia, simultaneously with the Spanish gunboats from this city, has excited suspicion. She is said to be owned by the Cubans, and intended to attack the Spanish fleet.

THE GUNBOATS HEARD FROM.

The steamer Bienville, which arrived to-day from Havana, reports that at eleven this morning, off Abscom, she exchanged signals with seventeen Spanish gunboats under convoy of the war steamer Pizarro. They were running finely under all sail, with a light wind and smooth sea.

PEABODY'S COURSE DURING THE REBELLION.

Thurlow Weed publishes a letter in the Commercial to-day, in vindication of the course of the late Geo. Peabody during the rebellion. He therein gives an account of the interview he held with Mr. Peabody the first year of the war. Mr. Peabody said he had been led to regard the extreme men in both sections as enemies to the United States, but he added that his devotion to our government and United States was unbounded. He was of the thought of war with our brethren, if he were at home he should stand by the Government, and that whatever he could do then and there for the Union cause he would do cheerfully. The letter further says: In the attempts that were made by Confederate sympathizers in Parliament to induce a recognition of the rebel government, and to destroy our blockade, Mr. Peabody manifested his devotion to the North by zealous efforts in our favor. He authorized me, as I have no doubt he did my colleague, Bishop McIlvaine, to call on him whenever I thought he could be of service to our cause, and there were many English capitalists who applied to Peabody for information relating to Confederate loans. He pronounced them worthless, and I learned nothing in saying that he never, directly or indirectly, gave aid or comfort, encouraged or countenanced the rebel representatives, or to independent rebels.

AN UNSERIOUS AFFAIR.

The first annual ball of the Fat Men's Association was given to-night. The members number 185, and weigh in the aggregate over twenty-five tons. With such an amount of fat there was a corresponding display of good humor and jollity. The affair was conducted most creditably, and was a success, despite the being present. The dresses were very rich and fashionable. There was a large number of visitors, and ticket speculators were plying their vocation outside the hall.

A PLOT TO DESTROY THE SPANISH FLEET.

It has transpired that a project was matured for blowing up the Spanish war vessel Pizarro and the Spanish gunboats. Two tugging boats had been chartered, and lay out in the river Saturday night, there being. It is alleged, a line of torpedoes between them, which were to be exploded by means of electricity. The storm of Saturday prevented the attempt, which was to be carried out that night.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Abel R. Corbin, of New York City, is in Covington, Ky., a guest of Jesse R. Grant.

The United States Supreme Court has taken a recess until the 20th of January.

Rev. Dr. Thurston, of the Central Congregational Church, of Fall River, Mass., died Sunday night.

The failure of Chas. E. Shepard & Co., flour dealers, of Albany, with $60,000 liabilities at last accounts, is announced. It is said that the creditors will not lose heavily.

A lad, named Land, employed on the steamer W. F. Curtis, lying at Wheeling, on Sunday, fell down the cabin stairs and broke his neck.

On Saturday afternoon, John E. Parkham, residing at Tricdelphia, W. Va., succeeded to get aboard a train on the Hempfield Railroad, while it was in motion, and was thrown on the track and almost instantly killed. This is the first fatal accident that has occurred on this road to a passenger since its opening.

By the explosion of a steam drum in Philadelphia yesterday, Joseph Nagle, the engineer, was killed, and three other persons injured.

The German Democrats of the Tenth and Seventeenth wards, New York, held a mass meeting Sunday, at which resolutions were passed denouncing Tammany in strong terms, and warning the Democracy of the country not to trust the leaders of Tammany Hall; proposing to contest the last election of judiciary officers in those wards, and calling upon Congress to pass a stringent election law under the power given it by the Fifteenth Amendment, as no other law should be enacted. A letter was received promising aid which participated to come from the Vigilance committee.

Fifty miles of the California and Oregon Railroad have been completed. It is expected the track will reach Mill Creek, one hundred and twelve miles distant from Sacramento, by March next. Surveys are being made for a line through the San Joaquin valley counties to the southern boundary of the State, which will enter San Francisco on the track of the Western Pacific Railroad or Oakland.

Margaret Cirlan was arrested in Chicago Sunday for killing her husband. They were both intoxicated at the time, and got into a quarrel, when Mrs. Cirlan struck him a blow and dealt her husband a blow, causing his death in ten hours.

The members of the New York bar have petitioned Congress for an increase of the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court.

It is said that Mr. Motley has actually proposed the transfer of the Alabama claims negotiations to Washington, and that the proposition has been accepted by Great Britain. Mr. Motley has proposed to include in the question of the neutrality of the seas also in the negotiations, and the British minister has also accepted that also. No time is fixed for the reopening of the negotiations.

The Mutual Base Ball Club will have gone to New Orleans to play three games.

It is reported that some of the firemen and engineers of the Spanish gunboats are in the Cuban interest, and will make an effort to decoy the vessels after they have left American waters. Mr. George Abbott, leader of an expedition whose aim is to destroy or capture the gunboats, sailed Sunday night in pursuit of them.

Rumor is abroad that the recent active transfer of Fenian arms and men from New York to the southwest was with an ultimate reference to Cuba. New Orleans, Key West and Mobile are to be made a base of operations. Some of the leaders of the Brotherhood are known to be at present in the South.

Maggie Brigham, a dancuse at the Memphis Varieties, was married to a young man from Mississippi, and the next morning she left, taking his pocket book, amounting to $1,500.

In a drunken row in Memphis Saturday night, Joe Lusher, colored, was fatally stabbed by Jim Todd, a negro.

On Wednesday last Samuel Whitely, of Henderson county, Tenn., while laboring under a fit of insanity, threw two of his children into a well, and then jumped in also. The children were drowned; Whitely was rescued, but is not expected to survive his injuries.

George Husgood was knocked down and trampled upon by a pair of runaway horses in Cincinnati yesterday, and so severely injured that he will not recover.

The city council of Indianapolis increased the population of that city yesterday, to the amount of 10,000 by annexing suburban territory.

The Montana Legislature, which is unanimously Democratic, yesterday rejected all of Gov. Ashley's appointees.

The Indians are very active in Arizona. Reports from the Sonora placer diggings state the mines very rich, but they cannot be worked for lack of wate.

R. M. Gaillard, a member of the Board of Education of Chicago and a prominent Sunday school worker, had an apoplectic stroke while in attendance at the Foster Mission school Sunday afternoon, and died during the ensuing night.

John Wheeler, freight conductor on the Northwestern Railroad, was instantly killed by being run over by a freight train at Geneva, Ill., Saturday.

Up to 7 p. m. Sunday, three bodies, Mrs. Swank, her oldest daughter and youngest child, were found in the mine at Stockton, near Hazelton. The youngest child was in the oldest girl's arms, with a sheet wrapped around it. The head of the oldest girl was crushed. The brother was much bruised in the face.

The Houston, Texas, *Telegraph* reports returns from 110 counties in that State. Davis has a majority of 626. Only seven counties are yet to be heard from. The Legislature is: Senate, 18 Republicans, 1 Conservatives and 3 to hear from; House, 48 Republicans, 45 Conservatives and 9 to hear from. Gen. Reynolds has ordered elections to be held in the counties of Nueces and Maun, which had not voted at the general election.

The Western Pacific Railroad Company are developing a coal mine near Corral station, and are changing their locomotives to burn coal.

A shock of earthquake was felt at Memphis at 2 A. M., yesterday, lasting several seconds.

H. B. Bristow, United States District Attorney for Kentucky, has sent in his resignation.

The Swedenborgian chapel in Waltham, Massachusetts, was destroyed by fire on Sunday.

Rev. C. E. Garnet has resigned pastoral charge of the Arlington Street (Boston) Unitarian Church, after a connection of forty-five years.

Frederick Ellenbrook, employed in a store at No. 30 State street, Chicago, while engaged in handling a pulley rope, was struck on the head by a ten pound iron weight, falling from above, and so badly injured that he died Sunday night.

A special from St. Paul says the Governor of Minnesota has interviewed General Hancock upon the propriety of sending some United States troops to Pembina, to protect the frontier settlements, in the event of an Indian outbreak as a result of the Red River difficulty. Troops will not be sent until there is an actual collision, or a greater certainty exists than there has yet been.

A crazy woman who had escaped from her house in Lasalle county, Illinois, was yesterday morning found about a mile and a half from Ottowa, in a corn field, frozen to death.

Samuel Sinn, who ran away from Erie, Pa., with the wife of Lasten Taylor, after swindling the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing Machine Company by forgery and embezzlement, was arrested in St. Louis yesterday. He is fifty years old, and has a grown up family.

HOW TO MEET DEATH.—We are moving away, and faster as every cord is loosed that binds us to the earth; faster as every heart that binds us upward. Let us rejoice, and, if we loved drawn us upward. Let us rejoice, and, as in autumn in the very earth prepared for death as if it were its bridal, and all the sober colors of summer take higher hues; and the trees and shrubs go forth to their rest wearing their most gorgeous apparel, as ending their career more brightly than they began it; so let our spirits cast off somber thoughts and all sable misbelief, and clothe themselves with all the bridal wear of faith, with every hue of heavenly joy.—*Beecher.*

CITY MATTERS.

DEATH FROM TETANUS.

Two Men Arrested for Murder.

On Saturday morning last, a German named John Beinfang, residing on Millersberger street, in the Sixth ward, died from lock-jaw, superinduced by an injury to one of his hands, which he had sustained a week before in a difficulty in a drinking saloon, near the corner of Fifth avenue and Wine street, in the Eleventh ward, kept by Philip Shanesbaugh. It appears that Beinfang went into the saloon, and while there got into a difficulty with several men, among whom were James O. Hare and Augustus Ebbert. During the fracas Beinfang was injured on the hand, and finally ejected from the house. The wound was at first regarded as slight, but in a few days it became very painful, and Dr. Duncan was called to attend to it. At this time nothing serious was apprehended, but the wound inflamed very rapidly, and on Saturday death ensued from lock-jaw. Dr. McCook examined the injury, and gave the opinion that lock-jaw resulted from the injury to the hand.

Yesterday Mrs. Elizabeth Beinfang, wife of the deceased, went before Mayor Brunot, and preferred a charge of murder against Hare and Ebbert, setting forth that they were the parties who had inflicted the fatal injury. A warrant was placed in the hands of officer Moon, and they were arrested and committed for a further hearing on Thursday afternoon at two o'clock.

Coroner Clawson empanneled a jury, but owing to the absence of witnesses, the investigation was postponed until this afternoon at three o'clock.

BURSTING OF A STEAM PIPE.

Engineer Dangerously Scalded.

Yesterday morning, about four o'clock, as the towboat "Clipper" was descending the Monongahela river, with a tow of coal barges, at a point opposite Farrow & Gumbert's coal works, above Lum No. 1, the steam pipe which connects the boilers with the engine exploded, filling the engine room with steam, and badly scalding the engineer, Mr. J. Johnston. The wheel was disabled, and the boat was landed as to attract the attention of people on shore, and those in the boat were filled with alarm until the extent of the injuries sustained by the "lookout" was known. Mr. Johnston was found near the engine in a helpless condition, prostrated by the force of the steam, and badly scalded about the head and arms, and was conveyed to his home in a hack. He will, we hope, be able to try his hand at "hard labor."

Arnold's bikery is a most remarkable one. From early manhood he followed the profession of a pickpocket, but of late years he has been very successful as a receiver of stolen property. He never sought, at home here, to disguise his business, and, as a result, so many of the old offenders would, if they could, gladly see him safely behind the bars of the penitentiary. Arnold is a man of fine personal appearance, and has a very pleasant address, which has enabled him to ingratiate himself into the confidence of many persons who, if they knew his true character, would not have anything to do with him. Arnold has been in the habit of visiting Cincinnati frequently, and while there he would generally purchase a suit for himself at ninety dollars, and one for a friend at a similar figure. Getting drunk in his new rig, he spoiled it, and immediately ordered a new one at eighty dollars. Then he was "kind" to some of his lady friends—would dress them in velvets and silks one day, and everything they had to tatters the next. Then he was fond of gambling, and thought nothing of staking a $500 bond on the turning of a card. His little difficulties with the ladies have also been quite extensive, as he never refused to pay handsomely to get out of a scrape. Notwithstanding his reckless expenditures he has managed to "assignee" about $4,000—the remnant of his hard-earned fortune! "It is said"—and those who said it—that this amount is to be invested in a saloon, but, if he should live to get out he will always something to go to housekeeping on. In fifteen years the latter will amount to something nice, "it is said," no matter who said it, but some time in the future, say fifteen years hence, part of this fund, or all of it if retired from business, will be used in persuading governor to grant a pardon. Reading between the lines, it may, "Snibbs" feels now that he is going to retire for a few years at least, and that with his (?) money will be of little use to him in his solitary cell. Now, if he can manage to invest it, in hope that it will benefit him somehow. As his business could not be "fixed up" yesterday, a removal to the county jail was, by permission of the court, deferred until to-day.

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The Letter Carriers—Their Compensation.

An organized effort is now being made by the letter carriers of the principal cities to secure an increase of pay, which, if the facts set forth in the petitions now circulated for signatures are found to be correct, should be promptly granted by Congress. The letter carriers, who have become so useful in the collection and distribution of the mail matter, and who are so prompt in special cases, and it is proposed to have the salary fixed for a term of years, stated that she has no more control over him, and fears that he will be killed if sent home. The boy will be taken this morning to the House of Refuge by officer Shaffer.

STOLE A COMFORT.—Lieutenant Emmet yesterday discovered a woman named Collins in the act of purloining a woolen comfort from the store of Mr. De Roy, on Penn street, and promptly arrested her. She was taken to the Mayor's office, but released with a reprimand, the owner refusing to prosecute her. The woman has a family.

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At the Museum, the Man Fish and other attractions are to be seen.

ARNOLD AND HARTMAN.

Hartman in the Penitentiary—Arnold Goes To-Day—Their Effects—Arnold Has $5,000 and Hartman $1,500.

The notorious thieving firm of Arnold and Hartman, which was dragged into involuntary bankruptcy on Tuesday last, and dissolved for the period of fifteen years, on Friday, by Judge Stowe, wound up its joint business yesterday, in the county jail. After many ups and downs, these desperate villains have been brought to condign punishment, and they began to realize, on Friday last, for the first time, that they were not beyond the reach of the law. Flushed with the success of late operations, they came to this city not long ago with about $60,000 in bonds and cash. This they began to spend in the most reckless manner, and in a few short weeks they had disposed of more than one-third of it. Among Arnold's purchases were a suit for himself at ninety dollars, and one for a friend at a similar figure. Getting drunk in his new rig, he spoiled it, and immediately ordered a new one at eighty dollars. Then he was "kind" to some of his lady friends—would dress them in velvets and silks one day, and everything they had to tatters the next. Then he was fond of gambling, and thought nothing of staking a $500 bond on the turning of a card. His little difficulties with the ladies have also been quite extensive, as he never refused to pay handsomely to get out of a scrape. Notwithstanding his reckless expenditures he has managed to "assignee" about $4,000—the remnant of his hard-earned fortune! "It is said"—and those who said it—that this amount is to be invested in a saloon, but, if he should live to get out he will always something to go to housekeeping on. In fifteen years the latter will amount to something nice, "it is said," no matter who said it, but some time in the future, say fifteen years hence, part of this fund, or all of it if retired from business, will be used in persuading governor to grant a pardon. Reading between the lines, it may, "Snibbs" feels now that he is going to retire for a few years at least, and that with his (?) money will be of little use to him in his solitary cell. Now, if he can manage to invest it, in hope that it will benefit him somehow. As his business could not be "fixed up" yesterday, a removal to the county jail was, by permission of the court, deferred until to-day.

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VIEWS ABROAD AND AT HOME.

Facts of Interest for Everybody.

Next to the pleasures derived from the contemplation of the beauties of nature as unfolded in the landscape that takes in at a single sweep, lofty mountains, billowy fields of waving, golden grain, mountain torrents, rippling brooks that lap softly the stones at your feet, the cattle sheltering themselves from the noonday heat, under the shade of friendly trees, and farm houses, dotted here and there in the distance, is the satisfaction of seeing all these faithfully reproduced by the skillful hand of the artist. Elegantly mounted, and in a favorable light, where the eye rests upon it at all hours of the day, it not unfrequently happens that the work of the artist takes upon itself beauties such as are not found in the reality, or, in other words, we find fresh revelations in the artist's interpretation. Home, again, there is the enjoyment afforded in embracing in one's own parlor, or sitting room, where one can, of. Art brings us the alm sphere, foliage, ensemble and hues of foreign climates. Do we want to look out upon the Bay of Naples, or the Lake of the Four Cantons." In a moment we are translated to the shores of Naples, the pure clearness, the rare atmosphere of which we have feelingly described in language, but not the reality. Here is a glimpse at the grandeur of Tyrol scenery. This "Mid near Kufstein," although less familiar to us than the classic theme of the great poet, is scarcely less attractive to the lover of nature, and parties, who have been through it—with its heavy coal, stolid, yet picturesque figures.

It is some satisfaction to look at "Monte Rosa" through the eye of a skillful artist, for in fact there is a pleasure in following the artist in his sketches over the Alps, through the Tyrol, by the Rhine, through quaint, old Venice and out-of-the-way places—the by-paths of Europe. Next to seeing it with your own eyes and hearing with our own ears, we gladly avail ourselves of the opportunity of viewing, at home, in life, and noteworthy edifices as they are apt to be met with abroad.

We advise those of our readers who love beautiful pictures, and especially that class who appreciate first class engravings, to drop in to Messrs. Bailey, Bishop and Fawcett's, No. 110 Wood street. A single glance at the contents of the show window, and the show windows, is sufficient to induce the visitor to explore the establishment. And yet the contents of the window are not the least pleasing part of the show. "The Family Scene in Pompeii," "The Lake of the Four Cantons," and its companion piece, "The Village Blacksmith," are in themselves a whole volume of art. The latter we are addressed to Mr. Joseph Forsythe, No. 19 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh. Mr. Sullivan was a man of strictly temperate habits. Neighborhood papers please copy.

Coroner's Inquest.

Coroner Clawson held an adjourned inquest upon the body of Mrs. Margaret Stevenson, wife of John D. Smith, who was accidentally run over on Saturday last by an engine attached to a coal train on the Connellsville Railroad, a short distance above McKeesport. The engineer, and fireman testified that it would have been impossible to stop the engine in time to save the woman's life. Dr. Weistle had just announced at a crossing, and was not sounded again before the fatal catastrophe. Mr. Smith had seen the train. After the examination of a number of other witnesses, the jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and recommended the observance of the rules of the company requiring the whistle to be sounded when anything is seen on the track.

TILE ROBBED BY JUVENILES.—There is a gang of bad boys in the Twelfth ward, who make a practice of entering stores and robbing tills whenever an opportunity is presented. They hang about the door of the store they intend to rob until a favorable chance is offered, then in they generally succeed in making a grab. On Saturday morning they entered Mr. Hobstein's meat shop on Penn street, near Sixth, in the absence of the latter, who was turned and stole fifty dollars from the drawer. The owner did not discover the fact of the robbery until the boys were leaving the door, when it was too late to identify them.

DESIRABLE RESIDENCE FOR SALE.—In another column is offered for sale the desirable residence and grounds of John W. Riddell, Esq., located in the Seventeenth ward, (Sewickley). This property is very elegibly located, and of easy access to the business part of the city. Mr. Riddell has had the place tastefully fitted up and finely ornamented, and offers it for sale because he intends removing to California. See advertisement.

HOLIDAY GOODS IN ALLEGHENY.—Our readers on the north side who may, in the goodness of their hearts, intend to make somebody happy during the holidays, should call at Orr & McConahy's establishment, 111 Federal street, and examine their superb stock of gold and silver watches, elegant gold chains, handsome jewelry, sterling and plated silver ware and articles of vertu. The stock is ample and varied, and the prices are more reasonable than one would suspect.

AN INCORRIGIBLE YOUTH.—Mrs. Eliza Brown, who resides on Sandusky street, Allegheny, visited the office of Mayor Drum yesterday, and requested that her son, Charles Brown, a lad aged thirteen years, be sent to the House of Refuge for incorrigibility. She stated that she has no more control over him, and fears that he will be killed some night at home. The boy will be taken this morning to the House of Refuge by officer Shaffer.

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THE BEAUTIFUL IN ART.

A Glance at Some New Pictures.

A popular writer has drawn a charming picture of domestic life, with the work of a comparatively unknown artist as a center-piece. The graceful, sprightly style of the author brings up before us in detail the appointments of a household in which an indefinable charm having its source in a single picture, furnished matter for speculation to friends and acquaintances. Looking at Girardet's engraving from Imbute's "Prodigal Son" the other day the thought occurred to us, what might not be effected with such a work for a center-piece? The original is regarded as the masterpiece of an extraordinary genius—the engraving is in keeping with the original conception. In the center-piece, we have depicted the sensual, the fanciful and the ludicrous. The blandishments of beauty, music and poetry; the excitement of the dance, games of chance, all that appeals to the senses, disarm reason and seduce the unreflecting into the paths of vice and immorality, are portrayed as with the hand of inspiration. The picture is one not to be taken in at a single glance. The prominent figures express access and force. Humanity as here depicted affords opportunities for fresh revelations, making man the central figure in the flush of sensual enjoyment, as he stands on the altar of the temple of pleasure, to the swine herd, in whose breast burns a spread regret, contrition and abject degradation, we have the reminiscence of the feelings that prompt a man to kneel and beat his breast in the anguish of confession. The picture is at once an illustration of self-abnegation, hope and promise. The center-piece is 20x12 inches; side-pieces 30 x 8.

"Christian Charity," is one of the few pictures which appeals directly to the sympathies of the true Christian. The artist attempts a difficult task with a lofty purpose, aiming to depict the harmony which exists between body feeling and beautiful form, under the influence of the purest type of Christian charity. At the foot of the cross, a female figure stoops down in the splendor that floods the cross, to extend a helping hand to the perishing. Behind her on the rock buffeted by the waves, with one hand, while extending the other imploringly to the kind angel above her. The artist gives us, in his solicitude, figures in the distance, out of hope, that the efforts of charity may be triumphant.

"Book of Ages" in colors, a companion piece to "Christian Charity," size 15 by 21 inches, is a picture with which the public is familiar. We may add, however, that no one who has not seen the chromo can form any idea of the new publication.

"Easter Morn," in oil, will eventually displace the pinxpahs and rough cuts. It is one of the finest chromos we have looked at. The effect of the most exquisite productions, and the cabinet fail to charm all beholders. "Little Eva's Sunshine Reverie." The picture shows such only a rare appreciation of the subject; it is exceptional in the spontaneous expression of spirituality. Again, as a picture of fanciful, it is a picture that fascinates at the first glance. The inspiration of the artist is far in advance of that of the master, as we have no doubt Mrs. Stowe will confess.

"The Sheik's Favorite Steed" is without exception the finest chromo from a genre painting that we ever examined. Each and every work-table, mantel, etc., displays a subtle meaning in the picture, in which color melts, interblends and slumbers alternately at the touch of Nature's hand. The material in design, yet wonderful in suggestive power. The mother seated beside him in an unstudied attitude, herself a vision of loveliness, is absorbed in the contemplation of her child. It would be difficult to conceive a more beautiful form, or a more lovely expression than that of mother and child, the combination is marvelous. The rider's skin, the sustain the picture alone, but stands as elegant articles that would enhance the appointments of the most luxurious drawing room or boudoir. Walnut gilt and solid gilt are alike specimens of elaborate designs and the finest workmanship.

A brief glance over the stock in the establishment would lead to an idea of the extent of the wholesale and retail business conducted by the firm. Cornices from 3 inches in full length mirrors of various patterns, cases of new chromos and engravings, specimens of wax work (chaste conceptions), and "Swiss carvings." The second, third and fourth stories are crowded to the ceiling with stock, in which is to be found every variety of mouldings, ornamental work for carvings, round and eccentric shaped, finished and unfinished frames, all sizes, everything in fact to be found in an extensive wholesale and retail establishment. Up where they could secure the best light, we found the gilders at work in the upper, or fourth story. As the season for giving and receiving presents is upon us, it would be well for purchasers to examine for themselves the extensive assortment of beautiful pictures, mirrors and swiss carvings exhibited by this well known firm.

Soldiers' Home—City Hospital.

There have been three grand national institutions established for the benefit of our disabled soldiers, located respectively at Milwaukee, Augusta, Maine, and Dayton, Ohio. Of the 4,600 occupants last year, 2,000 were cared for at Dayton, that seeming to be the favorite institution. The Washington special correspondent of the COMMERCIAL, telegraphing from the meeting of the Board of Managers in Washington, informed us that "on this and other accounts the opinion was freely expressed by the managers, that before many years the other national asylums would be sold and the men concentrated at the Dayton asylum."

In view of the fact that the fund of the National Asylum is ample for the support of all, and that all disabled soldiers are entitled to it, and that Dayton is so easily accessible from Pittsburgh, the expediency of keeping up the Soldier's Home in the Sixth ward is at the least doubtful. All the other private homes for disabled soldiers have been abandoned long ago. Why not send the inmates of the Pittsburgh Soldier's Home to Dayton, and apply the money now used to keep them to some more necessary purpose? We need a City Hospital. The building now occupied as the Soldier's Home is well located for the purpose, and the fund now used to keep it up would be a good foundation for its support.

Christian Association at McKeesport.

About six months ago the pastors and official members of the different churches in McKeesport, organized themselves into "The Christian Association of McKeesport," for the purpose of considering how best to infuse new life into the congregations, and to reach the masses who are careless about religion. The meetings at first were held in the room of the select school, but afterwards, on account of the increased interest manifested were held in one of the church buildings. The interest still continues. All who feel the privileged to ask questions or make remarks.

An election for officers was held at the last regular meeting, which resulted as follows: President, Mr. Sproull, Reformed Presbyterian church; Vice President, Mr. Moffat, Methodist church; Secretary, I. P. Learn, Presbyterian church; Executive Committee, Messrs. Penny, Blackburn, McConnell, Glasgow, and Fisher. The next meeting will be held in the Methodist church on the evening of the last Friday of the old year.

Festival at Sewickley Methodist Church.

—The Methodist Church of Sewickley proposes to hold a festival Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings of this week, in the old church, and the design of it is to raise funds to convert said building into a "Church Parlor." Rev. C. H. Holmes, D. D., is the popular pastor of this Church. His labors are very acceptable to the community, which manifests its approval by filling the pews at both services on Sabbath.

ACCIDENT TO A SIGN PAINTER.—Peter Abbott, sign painter, residing at East Liberty, fell from a ladder on Saturday, while painting a sign on Graham and Coon's store, and sustained severe injuries. The ladder had been placed on the top of a large box to increase its height, and slipped off, thus causing the injuries. Abbott is about thirty-five years of age and married. His parents reside in Allegheny. He was much better yesterday, and is reported in a fair way of recovery.

A TETE A TETE.

Devoted Principally to Practical Affairs.

The amount of comfort that depends on mere trifles can scarcely be estimated. A picture hung awry; the creak of a rocking-chair; the temporary deprivation of an easy chair; a chest of drawers that is cumbersome and unwieldy; a shoe that pinches, or one that is a trifle too large, any of these are sufficient to mar one's pleasure. Trifles in business transactions, in social and purely personal affairs, are matters that may be tided over, but there are trifles in domestic affairs, in the household appointments especially, that will neither be overlooked, overlooked nor under-looked by time or patience. A vast deal of comfort depends on this matter of household appointments. Were we called upon to give our advice to a young couple embarking upon the untried sea of matrimony, who were consulting over the appointments of their new home, we would begin by saying: get the best. In the long run, it is always the cheapest, and we don't know but it would be found in the short, or Chicago divorce run, to be the cheapest, for good goods will always command a fair price. Looking at the matter of house furnishing in a purely practical way, however, it is wisdom to have as large and varied assortment from which to choose the things that will surround you and make up your home. Having examined all that is to be found in the foremost furniture and furnishing establishments, with few regrets after making a selection. For instance, in the matter of furniture, it would be difficult to conceive a larger or more complete assortment of plain, durable, elegant, and rich furniture than that to be found at No. 118 Fourth avenue. Messrs. Lemon & Weise evince a laudable spirit in keeping up with the times, if there is anything new, elegant, or novel in the entire range of furniture, they will show it to you at 118. Were we commissioned to furnish a complete and elegant outfit for a pair of beginners in the business of housekeeping, we would experience little difficulty in checking off, as we passed through these commodious salesrooms, every article needed from baby's crib and the cradle to a reclining chair for a tired or aged body.

We advise those visitors who find their way to the second story (and they will have to ascend one higher before they obtain a glimpse at half the stock), to sit down in the first Spanish, Turkish, Oriental, or better still, the first Reclining Chair at hand, and to cast a look around them, an easy matter, since the chair can be adapt itself to any posture a well bred person will assume. Here we have *tete-a-tetes*, lounges, divans, sofas, of every conceivable pattern, antique and modern, covered with the best rep, damask, and hair cloth, ranging in the center of the room. Around the walls, the workmanship displayed in the full French bedsteads, the variety of bureaus, plain and elegant, work-tables, music, elaborately wrought sideboards, attract and gratify the eye.

Some of the work tables are elegant affairs, inlaid with various sorts of wood, fashioned into quaint designs in keeping with the re-mainder of the furniture—just the thing for a present to an orderly young lady. And equally useful in teaching one to be orderly. Camp stools, camp chairs, oriental chairs covered with reps in variegated colors, the finest of latest styles, children's chairs and toy chairs without limit. Give a young miss five minutes here, and she will select a variety of elegant articles sufficient to render her happy for the remainder of the year. In a word